January 8th — 14th, 1987, No. 2 75¢

THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION

TRAVEL LOG

★★★

SOUTH SHORE REVIEW

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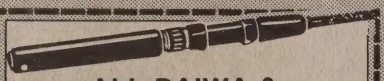

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THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION

Volume 22, Number 2 January 8th, 1987

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ABOUT THE COVER:

The inclusion of a one fish bag limit on striped bass for recreational anglers in 1987 is getting plenty of support from DEC officials and legislators. This 55 pound cow was beached in the Rhode Island surf last November by Long Islander, Richie Simmons. Rhode Island included a one fish bag limit in their 1986 striper regulations. Fred Golofaro Photo.

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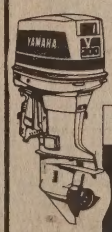

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SUNRISE ANGLERS MEETING OPEN TO ALL

The Sunrise Anglers will hold their first meeting of the new year on January 8th at Reese's Pub 1900 in Patchogue at 8PM. Master rod builder Gary Sutphen will demonstrate techniques of rod repair and construction. All are welcome.

ATLANTIS ANGLERS ELECTS NEW OFFICERS FOR 1987

President, Ashley Fulton; Vice President, Allen Zaretsky; treasurer, Don Granger; Sec'y., Jon Gottesman; Corresponding Sec'y., Elliot Paskoff; Fishing Committee Chairman, Bob Brucato; Entertainment, Jerry Grossberg; Membership, Jay Ebbets; P.R., Bernie Riback.

The membership would like to thank all of last year's officers for a job well done. We also extend best wishes to the new officers.

Atlantis Anglers is a Freeport based club looking for new fishing and fun loving persons to join our ranks. For information, call: Jay Ebbets, (516) 766-4381 or Ralph Horoqitz, (516) 889-0931 after 7PM.

LONG ISLAND DIVERS EXHIBIT AT KING'S POINT

The Long Island Divers Association held its 4th annual Fall Film Festival on November 15, 1986 at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at King's Point, New York. It was attended by approximately 800 divers and non-divers. The film show developed to provide an evening of entertainment. Included this year were multi-projection presentations put to music showing such familiar wrecks as the San Diego, Oregon and the U-853. Drawings from the admission ticket stubs were used to award thousands of dollars worth of door prizes. Two musket balls from the Atocha (a Spanish Galleon found by Mel Fisher in Florida) were also given away as prizes. The show finale was a 9 projector spectacular by Nikon called "Waterhouse."

In conjunction with the show, L.I.D.A. officially opened an exhibit at the Academy's American Maritime Museum entitled "Artifacts Saved." The exhibit contains a rich variety of brass, porcelain and glass objects from local wrecks rescued by various members of the 19 clubs belonging to L.I.D.A. Rare sea shells and fossils including a mastodon molar tooth are also examples of artifacts retrieved by divers and collectors. The Museum curator, Frank Braynard, at the ribbon cutting ceremony commented that the artifacts brought alive ships long since gone.

The Museum exhibit will be open from November 16, 1986 through February 15, 1987 at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. The hours are Tuesday and Wednesday, 11Am to 3:30 PM; Saturday and Sunday 1PM to 4:30 PM. Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

L.I.D.A.'s 1987 Dive Calendar has 12 new photos (results of the photo contest), lists of the clubs with their meeting dates, boat and dive shop directories and tide conversion charts. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, please send $5 (plus $1 to cover postage) to L.I.D.A., P.O. Box 7304, Hicksville, NY 11801.

NORTH BROOKHAVEN SPORT FISHERMEN'S CLUB HOLDING OPEN MEETING

The members of the North Brookhaven Sport Fishermen's Club have elected its 1987 Board of Directors. They are: President, Bob Mussavage; Vice President, Herb Johnson Jr.; Treasurer, Ray Catapano; Financial Sec., Dan Marchand; Corresponding Sec., Joe Caggiano; Recording Sec., Nick Posa; Sgt. At Arms, Gary Lobato. Trustees are John Herson, Joe Retten and Mel Lippman.

The new board would like to extend an invitation to all fishermen to attend our first open meeting of 1987. Meet our members, join us in fishing, conversation, and the dark horse raffle and possibly join us as a new member. We meet at the Brookhaven Mod Building, located at the intersection of Rte. 83 and Rte. 25A, Mount Sinai, or call Pres. Bob Mussavage at 732-4863. The date for the first meeting is January 12th at 8PM.

SEA GRANT OFFERS MARINE BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

This coming year, the New York Sea Grant Extension Program is sponsoring the Marine Business Management Workshop series.

The workshops are specifically designed to provide owner/operators of marine recreational businesses, such as marinas, party and charter boats, fishing stations and bait and tackle shops, with practical information that will help them run their enterprises more profitably. Experts and professionals will cover a variety of important topics ranging from liability issues to marketing and advertising techniques. The individual workshops will be held from 8PM to 10PM on Thursday nights between January 29th and March 12th at the Suffolk County Community College Speonk Campus. The cost is $5 per workshop or $25 for all six.

This program provides a unique opportunity for managers and owners of marine businesses to enhance their business skills.

If your association is interested in coordinating a regular monthly meet-

ing with a session of particular interest, we would be more than happy to help make arrangements for your facilities at the campus.

If you have further questions, need additional information, or would like an agenda, please contact Robert B. Buerger or Jay Tanski, at (516) 632-8730.

DEFENSE FUND ESTABLISHED

The Fishermen's Defense Fund, Inc., a Not-for-Profit Corporation approved by New York State was created to protect rights of sport fishermen.

Within sthe last two years a number of sport fishermen were issued criminal summonses by the Glen Cove Police Department upon the orders and directions of the East Island Association, Inc. The sport fishermen were fishing below the mean high water mark in Long Island Sound near East Island or Morgan Island. The East Island Association Inc., claims ownership for a distance in excess of 400 feet into Long Island Sound from the Mean High Water mark. The ownership claim is based upon the purchase at a Tax Sales of the Ropes Patent issued by the State of New York. It is our position that no ownership passed that would prevent fishermen from fishing around East Island or Morgan Island at or below mean high water.

We are instituting legal action naming the East Island Association, Inc., State of New York, Nassau County and the City of Glen Cove as defendants to determine the rights of the sport fisherman and to end the criminal actions instituted at the insistence of the East Island Association, Inc.

We need support! Please give us a supporting contribution. Donations may be mailed to: Fishermen's Defense Fund, 189 Forest Avenue, Glen Cove, NY 11542.

MASTER ANGLING TOURNAMENT WINNERS

The Port Washington-Montauk Point-Connection was updated recently at Louie's Shore Restaurant in Port Washington when the Carl Fisher Memorial Trophy was unveiled and presented to the winner of a first annual season-long angling tournament off Montauk Point.

Carl Fisher, the Miami Beach developer, along with his associates, layed out the plans which created the entire resort/sport fishing/pleasure boating facility at the famous Point just 60 years ago in the library of his waterfront mansion which still stands on the shore of Manhasset Bay next to Manasset Bay Yacht Club, Port Washington.

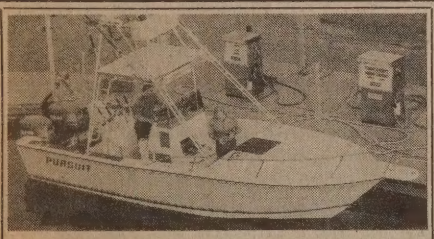
Guy LaMotta, owner/operator of Manhasset Bay Marine at Port Washington and president of the refurbished Deep Sea, the largest pleasure boat marina at Long Island's east end, sparked by a Fisher-like drive to focus on the Montauk sport fishing mecca, had the Carl Fisher Memorial Angling Trophy designed to promulgate the legend of the Montauk resort creator.

To remain "in residence" at Deep Sea headquarters, the three foot high trophy will bear the inscribed name of master angler, Chester Wolfe of Manhattan, overall winner of the first (1986) Deep Sea Season-Long Master Angling Tournament. Names of winners in the point system tournaments for each following year will also be inscribed on the trophy.

The Wolfe award was for a 312 lb. blue marlin, an 87½ white marlin and for a 134 lb. yellowfin tuna—all caught aboard his sportfisherman, "Sea Wolf."

Other trophies went to George Armadoras of Fort Lauderdale, Florida for a 187 lb. bigeye tuna, a 113 lb. mako and a 35 lb. bull dolphin—all caught aboard his "Bite the Dust"; Scott Rhein of Miller Place for a 393 bluefin tuna caught aboard his father's (Pete Rhein) boat, "Sneaky Pete"; David Finger of Montauk for a 46 lb. albacore and Gary Braverman for a 148½ lb. swordfish—both caught aboard Braverman's "Danielle"; Mike Hagerty of Glen Head for a 10 lb. fluke caught aboard his "Uala"; and Ron Schubert of Manhasset for a 13½ lb. weakfish caught aboard his "Brahms."

Dr. Lewis Feinman of Manhattan, Deep Sea Tournament Committee head, presented the awards.



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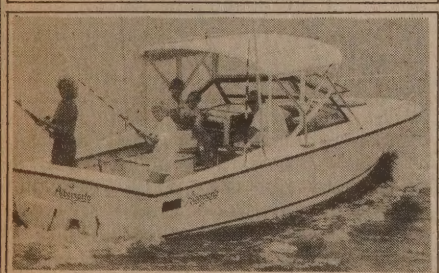

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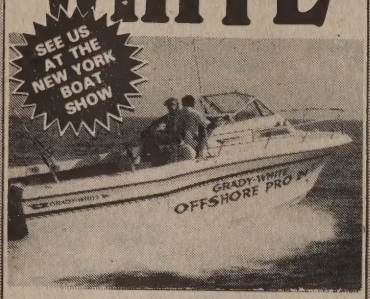

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RD 20-27	2700 lb.	$1,250.
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Boats For Anglers

PRO-LINE OFFSHORE 25

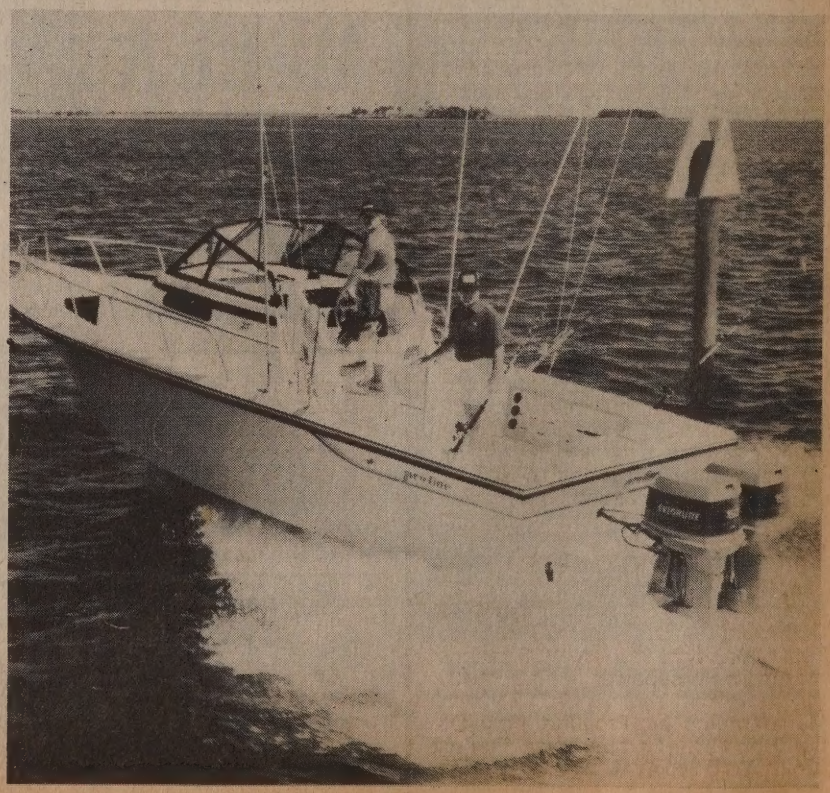
by Gary Diamond

The latest model from the drawing table of Pro-Line is their Offshore 25 Walkaround. This boat was exclusively designed to fill the gap between their already popular 23 and 28 foot walkaround offshore fishing boats. However, the 25 is in a class by itself with many standard features that you would normally expect to pay for as optional extras.

First and foremost, every offshore angler considers large fuel capacity as a desirable feature. The Pro-Line 25 has a built-in 166 gallon welded tank located under the deck with access ports conveniently situated for inspection and additional wiring. Tipping the scales at a hefty 4,700 pounds dry hull weight, the craft is easily powered with twin 150 horsepower outboards which allow it to cruise at speeds of 35 MPH at an efficient two-thirds throttle. When the twin V-6 motors are pushed to the limit, this boat hits an incredible 47 miles per hour. Outboards are mounted on Pro-Line's "Plus 22" bracket which are well constructed and improve the overall performance of the craft while under way.

The instrument panel is also new for 1987. It features individual fused switches for every electrical and electronic device imaginable. In addition, the engine instrumentation is easily installed in a multiple gauge panel that's pre-punched and sloped for easy reading. The large flat surface above the control panel provides ample room for such items as depth finders, compass, Loran C and radar repeater with room to spare. A full wraparound windscreen heavily supported with anodized aluminum frames provides protection from the elements for the electronics as well as the operator.

Although cabin space isn't of prime concern to most fishermen, you'll find the 25 has more than adequate room inside its spacious walkaround, for two persons to sleep in comfort. Also



this is one of the first 25s I've seen with a cabin high enough for a person over six feet tall to stand up. Included in the cabin is a Porta-Potti, stainless steel sink, storage cabinet and a roomy vee berth. Access to the cabin is made through two heavy, louvered teak doors with a sliding plexiglass hatch cover—both of which are lockable.

As for fishing room, this particular craft has loads of cockpit space, ample walkaround room on both sides of the cabin and large open bow platform. A self-contained fish box with two hinged teak hatches is built into the transom and large enough to hold some hefty offshore species. Overboard drains are conveniently placed on each side of the fish box. Under the gun'l, you find two large rod holders capable of holding three trolling rods on each side of the craft. Additional stainless flush mount rod holders are mounted on top the gun'l.

The entire boat is trimmed with heavy teak. This includes hatch covers, boarding strips, under the gun'l rod holders and bow pulpit. The one piece bow rail, cleats, grab rails and lifting eyes are constructed from high quality stainless steel. Other than occasionally oiling the teak trim work, the boat is nearly maintenance free. Washdowns can be accomplished with the built-in saltwater washdown system that really puts out the pressure when you need it most.

My own personal experience aboard the Pro-Line 25 is limited to fishing the waters of the lower Chesapeake Bay. The deep Vee hull sliced through the chop as if the water was dead calm. Cruising at speeds of 35 MPH, the twin 150 outboards were never under a strain and consumed a miserly 10 gallons per hour at 4500 RPM. Once we arrived at the fishing grounds, we found sea trout and blues concentrated at a nearby wreck. The fishing was fast and furious and lots of fish blood and slime hit the non-skid deck surface. With the flick of a switch, the mess was quickly washed overboard through the self-bailing scuppers. The spacious cockpit with its 9' 10" beam allowed ample room for up to five anglers to battle and land fish without crowding others.

Overall, the Pro-Line Offshore 25 Walkaround is an excellent fishing machine whether you're headed offshore for big game or prefer inshore fishing for panfish. It's designed with the avid fisherman in mind, is virtually maintenance free, yet provides the creature comfort usually found in more luxurious craft.

SPECIFICATIONS

Length	25'
Beam	9'10"
Hull Weight	4700 pounds
Fuel Capacity	166 gallons
Maximum Horsepower	400

Manufactured by: Pro-Line, Post Office Box 1348, Crystal River, Florida 32629, (904) 795-4111.

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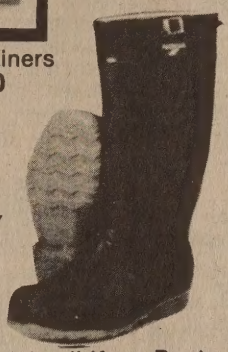

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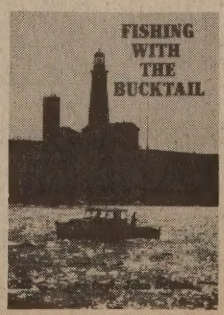

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Product Review

DYTEK 2000

by John Raguso

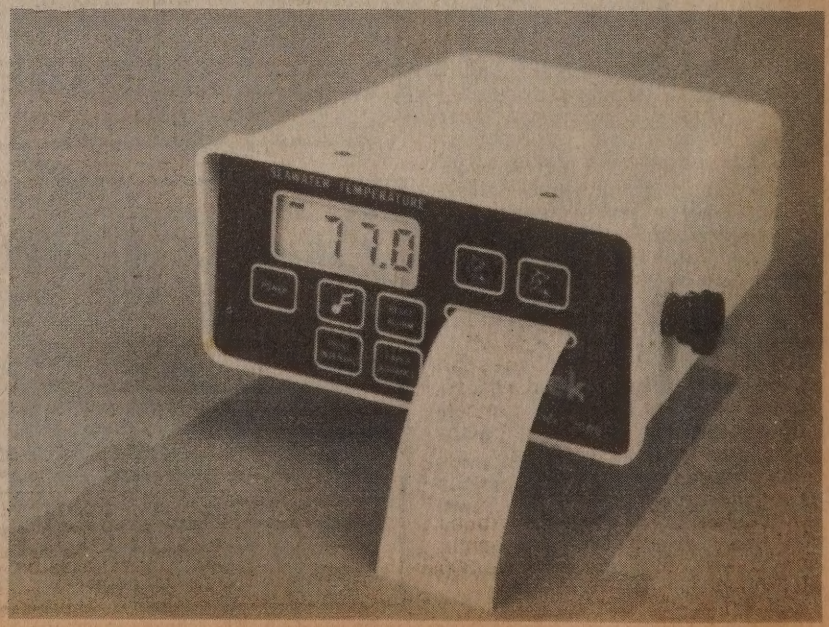
Like most offshore anglers, I've been familiar with the Dytek family of seawater temperature gauges for many years. I've employed the standard circular dash mounted Model 1000 on my last three boats, and the ability to keep track of the critical sea temp variable has ensured quite a few successful fishing trips for myself and many of my companions. As competitive temp gauges have proliferated the market these past few seasons, emulating the look and features of the popular Dytek instrument, the engineers at this Bohemia, Long Island-based plant have created a second generation unit that raises the state-of-the-art up a few notches.

This new gauge is dubbed the Model 2000, and unlike its peers and predecessors, it affords the scientific angler much more than just a reading of the ambient sea water surface temperature. Advanced micro-circuitry allows it to do much more, including giving you the time of day, loran position of the patch of water you're monitoring, and other significant data, but more on that later.

I first came into contact with this fascinating instrument in the spring of 1986, when my buddy Mike Clancy outfitted his new 29 foot Topaz with a Model 2000. I was curious why he'd broken tradition by passing up the purchase of the conventional Model 1000 and was to find out why on our first '86 journey to the edge of the Continental Shelf.

Upon arriving, we found a cluster of boats working the west wall and only a handful to the east. Since the wind and swells were coming from the southeast, we reasoned that warmer water would probably flow from that direction and headed the Topaz on a 150 degree course. Within minutes the sea temp reading jumped from 67 to 68.5 degrees, and with it a wave of five yellowfins attacked our high speed lures dancing astern. Here's where I was sold on the unique attributes of the Dytek Model 2000. As our crew of three raced to attend the five straining trolling rods, I punched the "event" key of the 2000 to record the hit. After 15 minutes of this Chinese fire drill, 4 of the 5 speedy tuna were flopping in the fishbox, but since no one had the chance to log the loran coordinates and precise sea water temperature, could we regain paradise?

This problem was easily solved by the Dytek 2000's paper printout, which recorded the exact time, loran TDs and sea temp of our former flurry. We had drifted about 6/10 of a mile during the heated argument with the feisty yellowfins and proceeded to head back to the hot numbers of the first strike. Sure enough, after crisscrossing the spot a few times, we had a second wave of 5 tuna hit the lures again, and another four were deposited into the icy brine of the fish cooler. Without the capabilities of this unique instrument, we would



have been guessing at best for our initial strike zone, so chalk up another victory to science.

Now that we know why the Dytek 2000 is such an awesome weapon to have in your electronics arsenal, let's take a closer look at what it can do.

Besides monitoring and recording surface sea water temperatures, the 2000 will also give you a precise positional fix of your location, via interface with most NMEA 0183 Loran C units. In addition, there are three separate alarm circuits that monitor the temperature's rate of change, plus established high and low variations. In the rate of change mode, if the degree of temperature change exceeds .9 degrees in 5 minutes, an internal alarm is triggered. In the Hi/Lo format, the beeper will sound if the sea temp rises or falls more than 5.4 degree from the level originally fed into the unit when turned on.

Other features include auto print intervals of 5, 15 or 30 minutes, which can provide a meaningful analysis of the ocean's secrets, as you monitor the temperature vs. position variable on your way out or back from the fishing grounds. As mentioned in the story, the event key can record a "knock down" or a "catch" on demand by pressing either of two distinct buttons, with the net result being a printout of the time, temp and TDs for your contact with Neptune's little playmates.

The Dytek 2000's display is easy to read, even in direct sunlight, because of its large LCD display. The unit's compact size makes it easy to find a home for this tool in even the tightest of environments. The durable, sealed plastic case will protect the internal workings from the ravages of the weather and the sealed membrane switches ensure a long and reliable life, especially in saltwater. Changing paper is a snap and even jams present no major problems, since the paper path is fairly clear of any obstructions.

According to Dytek's famed Bill Rauft, Commander of the canyon commuter "The Deeper," the 2000's power consumption is an incredibly low 0.5 amps. There is a three position dimmer switch to control backlighting for night, dawn or dusk viewing in changing light conditions. The unit also has a built-in self-test mode activated during initial power up, that prints either "Test OK" or an assortment of error messages which will help you solve any malfunctions.

All in all, the Dytek Model 2000 temp tracker is an electronic aid that should find a conspicuous spot on the console of any serious sport fishing boat. If you don't have one, you can bet your tournament competition will, so this just might be the edge that'll put you in the winner's circle more often!

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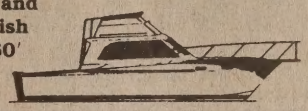

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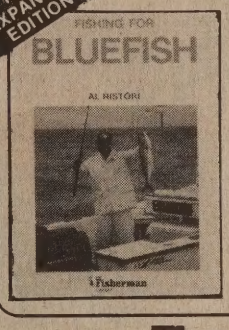

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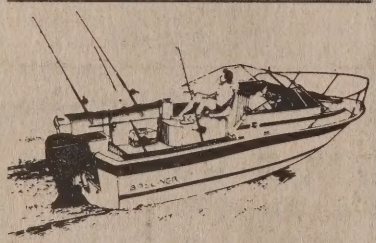

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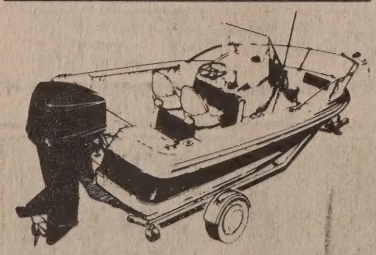

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The Tackle Doctor

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

This isn't really a tackle question, but it does concern fishing, so you might be able to answer it for me. I fish from the surf and off jetties and in the late season (November and December) my hands become so cold that my fingers won't function. I've tried most every kind of glove known to man and my fingers still are as stiff as a corpse. For years I had the same problem with my feet when wearing boots but after buying insulated socks, that is no longer a problem. My hands, unfortunately, cannot take too much cold. Got any suggestions short of me giving up fishing once the weather turns cold?

Eugene Freeman.

Dear Eugene,

For what it's worth, everyone who fishes during cold weather suffers the effects of the cold in their fingers and toes. We've tried many different kinds of gloves and found most lacking. Mittens are probably best since you can fold your fingers into a fist and this seems to warm them considerably. A friend who does a lot of skiing clued us in on this fact one chilly December morn when fishing for striped bass and after giving it a try, we had to agree.

Some of the dedicated jetty jocks and surf casters have only recently begun using the kind of gloves that are worn by scuba divers. These are insulated and do retain body warmth better than any of the commercially produced gloves. Leather, loosely woven woolen or rubberized gloves are probably the worst choice since they seem to hold the cold more than keep it out. I do have a very good pair of hunting mittens that are cut out across the palm, so I can use my fingers to crank the reel handle. These, too, keep out the cold, but once they get wet they, too, are worthless.

Try the divers gloves. I think they will solve your problem. You can buy them at most any shop catering to divers, but make sure you purchase the high quality type rather than those

Cotton work gloves are inexpensive but offer minimal protection from the cold.

which sell at bargain basement prices for you get only that for which you pay.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I plan to replace my 15-year-old boat with a new one this winter. I'll be doing the boat show circuit and have some idea of exactly what I want. My present boat is a runabout type with an open passageway to the bow. I like the basic layout and want to buy a similar type hull, but with a raised windshield so it will cut the wind but still allow me to put canvas over the cockpit area. That part is easy. I've seen several different makes and models at the local marinas and have a general idea of what my new rig is going to cost.

I also want some "goodies." I plan to fish the offshore waters for tuna, marlin and maybe some sharks. I am not sure whether or not I'll need outriggers, downriggers or offset rod holders. What's your opinion? I've been reading your fishing articles and the Tackle Doctor for a couple of years and value your opinion very highly. Any advice you can offer is deeply appreciated.

Charles Wright.

Dear Charles,

Thanks for the pat on the back. Glad you enjoy the Tackle Doc. I, too, find it a fun column to write since it gives me a chance to do a little research in addition to the usual day to day stuff.

For sure you'll want to buy a pair of outriggers. You don't say what size boat you are going to buy, but judging from your description, I would guess you are thinking 22 to 25 foot range with a walk-through type layout. You'll probably want outriggers of at least 15 feet to give your trolling lures a decent spread. The layout type should fill the bill nicely and they are reasonably priced and easy to install. When not in use you can leave them at home so they are not in the way.

Downriggers come in all price ranges and as manually operated or electric units. I've got electrics (Cannon Digi-Troll) and they do the job efficiently. However, the units were designed for freshwater use and do corrode at the connector junctions. If you elect to go with electrics, buy the type that are designed specifically for saltwater use. These are available from several excellent companies and can be purchased from most of the shore area marinas that cater to fishermen.

You should also be thinking of a Loran C, water temperature gauge and maybe a new graph recorder. There is no better time to buy than during the boat show season for that is when most companies sell their products at markdown prices.

You'll probably do better in the canvas department by looking locally for a custom canvas shop. There are many of these around the coast that will build you whatever kind of shelter you request.

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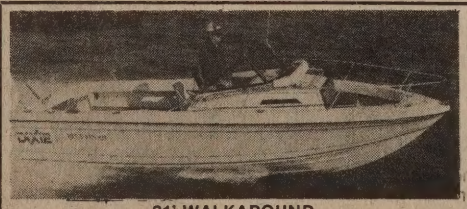

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Dock Lines

by Eric Burnley

Dear Dock,

I have always done the maintenance on my own car, lawnmower, motorcycle and most other mechanical equipment that I own. I am not a trained mechanic and I feel I know when to call for help, so is there any reason why I can't maintain the new Yamaha outboard on my boat?

Harry Simpson.

Dear Harry,

Personally keeping up with the maintenance of your outboard is a good idea and not at all difficult for someone familiar with engines. The owner's manual will give you exact instructions and a timetable to tell you when certain maintenance must be performed.

The primary benefit of doing the work yourself is getting to know more about the machine that takes you out and, more important, brings you back from your fishing trips. You can spot potential problems such as leaking seals, chafing wires, rusting nuts or anything else that could cause a breakdown offshore. I always take the cover off my engine after every trip to check it over and give it a light spray of water replacing oil. Don't just look at it—touch it, feel it and get to know where all those wires and fuel lines go and what they do. Should you be forced to make emergency repairs, you will have some idea of where to begin.

* * *

Dear Dock,

My 22 foot boat does not hold enough gas for a run to the canyons. I need at least another 20 gallons, but I don't want to go through the hassle of installing permanent tanks. What else can I do?

Frank West.

Dear Frank,

The only option other than permanent tanks is to carry fuel in jugs and pour this into your tank as you need it. This procedure scares me to death, but I do it every time I go offshore.

I use five gallon plastic jugs made especially for gasoline. You can get these in any automotive store or the automotive section of a department store.

I only carry enough fuel to top off my tanks after I reach my original destination. I don't have full fuel jugs on deck while I am trolling. The empty jigs are tied off around the bow where they get plenty of ventilation, but stay out of the way.

You can use a siphon to get the gas from the jugs to the tank or you can pour it in directly. This operation should be performed with the boat moving slowly into the wind and the blower on. I keep a full five gallon bucket of water nearby and spills are quickly washed away.

* * *

Dear Dock,

I really get burned up at people who anchor or drift fish in a marked channel and then make obscene gestures when I go by at speed and my wake causes their boat to bounce around. I think I have the right of way and they shouldn't be there. What do you think?

Orson Stubbs.

Dear Orson,

It doesn't matter what you and I think, the rules of the road state you are responsible for your wake. Even if the other boat is not where it should be and your wake causes damage to it or injures someone in the boat you could be liable.

I can sympathize with the problem of anglers who decide to fish in a navigational channel. The only resource you have is to call the Coast Guard or Marine Police and let them deal with the offenders. Tossing them around with your wake may be gratifying but it could also be very expensive.

* * *

Dear Dock,

I recently purchased an older boat. It was built in the early 1970s and while the hull is sound, the gel coat looks faded. The boat is only 22 feet long, so I feel I can improve its appearance myself but need some advice on how to proceed.

Tony Cito.

Dear Tony,

Unless the gel coat is very badly chipped or cracked, there is no reason why a lot of elbow grease along with some rubbing compound and wax won't improve its condition. This is the system I use on my 1966 20 foot Bertram and it looks just fine.

The first step is to wash the boat with a strong detergent and a stiff brush. Use tar remover to take off the creosote scars from docking and a stain remover to take off rust marks. A spray cleaner such as Fantastic and a powdered cleanser like Comet will take off many other marks. I had a lot of leaf stains on my boat and the Comet got them up.

The next step is compounding. This is tough work but it is the only way I know to get the oxidized gel coat off. I used Boat Armor Rubbing Compound followed by a coat of Boat Armor Boat

Wax. This is not a one day job and you will go through a good supply of clean terry cloth towels before you finish. Star Brite Corporation makes a product called Fiberglass Color Restorer and Sealer.

After you get the color back you will have to wax it twice a year to keep it looking good. I put a coat on in the spring and another in late summer. It doens't take long and the results are well worth the effort.

* * *

Dear Dock,

I have a small boat and storage is a problem. One item that takes up a lot of room is the life preservers. I know the law requires me to have them on the boat, but where should I keep them? *Art McCLane.*

Dear Art,

On your body is where you should keep your PFDs. The best life preserver made is completely useless unless you are wearing it when you go into the water. Accidents are seldom planned and happen very quickly.

The old orange vests are quite cumbersome and uncomfortable to wear. The newer models from companies such as Coleman, Starns and Mustang are very light and you quickly become used to having them on.

* * *

Dear Dock,

I really want to get a Loran for my boat this winter, but I'm afraid I won't be able to use it because the operation sounds complicated. I don't understand anything about electronics or computers, but I can still navigate with a compass, chart and parallel rule. Will I be able to get my money's worth out of a Loran? *Sam Rastin.*

Dear Sam,

It is no more difficult to operate a modern Loran than it is to get money out of a remote bank machine. You just have to push the right buttons and have the right figures inside.

The fact that you can read a chart and run a compass course will be a big help with the Loran. The only thing you won't need any more is the parallel rule because the Loran will give you the headings.

No matter which unit you purchase you will find the instruction for operation proceeds in a logical fashion. Familiarize yourself with the various key pads on the unit, learn what waypoints are, find the TD lines on your chart and you should have little trouble operating the machine.

Basically, you will give the Loran two positions. The one you are heading from and the one you are heading to. These are keyed into memory or waypoints. The Loran will then tell you the compass heading and keep you on that heading until you arrive. The actual circuitry used to compute this information is quite sophisticated but the operation is quite simple.

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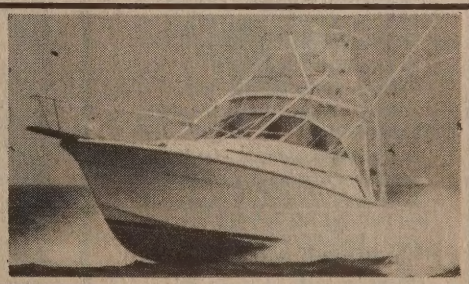

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I RESOLVE...

by Matt Ahern

Start off the new year with your own set of fishing resolutions.

Just think, fellers: a fresh, just come into the world New Year! Months and months of grand, glorious fishing days wait in the wings. But what are you going to do in the next two months or so before Freddie Flounder prowls the bays and creeks? As Shakespeare said: that is the question.

If you're like most fishermen I know, you'll be moping around the house on weekends, chomping at the bit and driving yourself and you know who up the proverbial wall. You'll quickly realize that gazing at the idiot box through glazed, inattentive eyes isn't the answer. And being an active fisherman, you'll also discover that television is not what the doctor ordered for a gentleman of your caliber. In fact, to a dedicated angler, such pastime leaves much to be desired.

Well, here's something that you as that dedicated fisherman can do. You can use this lull in outside activity to your advantage. You can take it upon yourself to improve your fishing skill. Right now—at home. So with that in mind, why not make several New

Once you learn to master blackfishing, other bottom species are a cinch.

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Year's resolutions to that effect.

It is said that New Year resolutions are made to be broken. But that's only for the faint of heart. And who ever heard of a fisherman who was faint of heart? If he were, he wouldn't be a fisherman, for the good Lord knows just how often we are put to the test.

As for the resolutions I've listed, I'll guarantee you will neither break them, nor treat them lightly; you'll also be surprised how quickly the winter will pass. It is quite possible you won't even have enough time to undertake everything you'd like to before flounder time. But don't let that stop you. Select from that list those resolutions that appeal to you and go to it.

As you go along the list, you will notice I haven't placed them in order of importance, for what may seem important to me, may not necessarily be of importance to you. It isn't required that I take you by the hand, as it were, and say: here—you better pay attention to this one. You will recognize those that have special appeal for the type of fishing you do. Give them your undivided attention—and watch your catch increase come spring.

Resolve to learn the importance of terminal tackle. When you do you will learn there is more to this basic equipment than meets the eye.

Resolve to always experiment when given the opportunity or need. Remember, every fishing method in use today, be it of sport or commercial vintage, has been brought about by someone's experiments somewhere along the line. Never concern yourself that your experiments may seem idiotic. They may work; and if they don't, who's to know? Only you and the fish—and the fish aren't talking. (They may snicker a bit, though.) I'm sure the fisherman who first experimented with dyed clam for flounder didn't give a rap about what others thought—and look what he came up with!

Resolve to read all you can on the subject of immediate interest. Visit your public library some evening and spend a quiet hour. Your library contains a wealth of information on all phases of the fishing game. Take advantage of it, for not only will you find tips and ideas to better fishing, but your hard-earned taxes are paying for that book-lovers oasis. Use it.

Resolve to learn the blackfishing game. Notice I didn't mention flounder or cod, or other bottom fish. Why? Well, once you have mastered old chisel tooth, the catching of other bottom feeders becomes duck soup. In season, the Fisherman is chockful of articles on how to catch this wily character. Read them, study them, then go out and pit your knowledge against this pgunacious bottom dweller this spring. I guarantee you'll see your catch of other fish increase.

Resolve to keep fishing records of all your trips. If your desire is to become a master fisherman (and it should be), this is an absolute requirement. You may be able to substitute a double-overhand knot in place of an Improved Clinch Knot and get away with it; you may substitute a slice of skimmer for soft clam when flounder fishing and catch fish; but you will never find any aid that will put fish in your bucket with regularity as will the keeping of accurate records. It is not my intention to go into a long dissertation on why you should keep fishing records. The reasons on why you should and how to go about it can be found in an article I wrote a short time ago (Issue #48, 1986). If you missed it, a copy may be ordered. Check Page Three of this issue.

Resolve to learn how to tie the correct knots needed at any given time. And also correct hook nomenclature.

Resolve this this year you are going to learn how to snell hooks (thereby saving yourself a bundle and help you along in experimentations).

Fine, you say, all well and good, but how do I find out about knots and hooks and hook snelling, and all that kind of stuff.

Fret no more; Old Matt has the answer.

I have two interesting bits of fishing information for you fellows with a desire to learn this part of the fishing game. One is an interesting pamphlet put out by O. Mustad and Son of Oslo, Norway, the world's largest hook manufacturer (over 50,000 different styles!). The other is a 36 page booklet on knots, all kinds of fishing knots, put out by DuPont. All the knots we need to enjoy the bottom fishing game are there—plus two methods of hook snelling.

Now, if you're interested, here's what you do.

Send a **stamped**, self-addressed #10 business envelope (9½x4) to my home at 39 King Street, Hampton Bays, NY 11946-2220 (NOT to the office!). State which you want. If you want both DuPont's knot booklet and Mustad's "Guide To The Selection of Salt Water Bait Hooks," place **two** stamps on the return envelope. Mustad's Guide also includes an interesting bit on bait.

They are both free. Each year I say this, and each year some of the fellows include a buck or two "For your trouble, Matt," which means I only send it back. Free is Free. But this year if the fellows send that buck or two, I'll send it to The Fisherman's "Send-A-Kid Fishing" program. Then everyone is happy.

Over the years I've sent off thousands of these booklets and pamphlets, some as far away as Argentina, England, Ireland, France, Korea and Hawaii. So, you see, fishermen are all brothers under the skin.

Anyway, take advantage of those resolutions and at the same time get yourself out of the doldrums of winter. Your golden opportunity is at hand.

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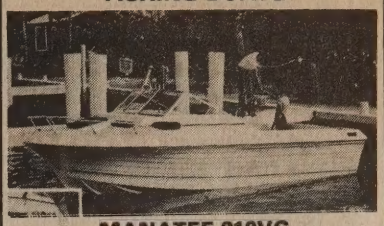

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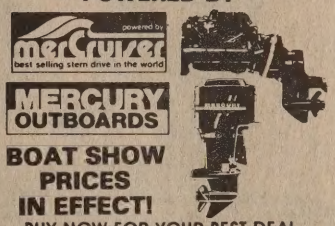

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TUNAMANIA:

Produced by Murray Brothers, one of the most respected names in big game fishing. Takes the viewer through a step by step rigging process for the first part then into some incredible action as seen from the flybridge of the Cookie Too, one of the best tuna boats on the east coast. You'll see 600 pounders crashing a squid bar along with the procedure for rigging same. Find out how to rig a mackerel bait and why a wire man should wear gloves. We're sure you'll play this one over and over during the winter. Highly recommended.
Runs 110 minutes.

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HOW TO CATCH BIG BASS

Our editors are saltwater people but they like what they saw in this presentation by Doug Hannon, a man who a caught 400 largemouths over 10 pounds. You'll see why he fishes a select amount of tackle for the giant bigmouth and when the best times to fish are. Hannon's meticulous records will help the beginning bass fisherman or advanced amateur capture the best fish of his or her life. Along the way you'll find suggestions on outfitting a john boat and then where to go 8 pounder hunting. Everybody likes **b-i-g** fish.
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THE KEYS TO PARTY BOATING

by Gerald Hahn

Most fishermen heading for the Florida Keys have their eyes set on a competent fishing guide who will take them through the grass flats for bonefish, tarpon and permit. Other people prefer an offshore charter for sailfish, amberjack, marlin and various sharks. Little consideration is given to party boats here, however, which have excellent fishing out of Key Largo, Islamorada, Marathon and Key West.

I fished on three of these boats: a half-day trip on the Miss Tradewinds and a night trip on the Caloosa, both in Islamorada, and two full day trips on the Above Average, in Marathon. Most of the fish were various snappers and grouper, but they varied considerably in size, depending on the depth of the water. This ranged from 50 feet to 200 feet.

Rental rods are available on all boats in the Keys, so you don't have to bring your own. As in the Northeast, however, they are mostly beat up and overscaled for the quarry. The rods have been subjected to years of abuse by inexperienced fishermen. A typical boat rod here is 6 feet long and matched with a Penn 65 spooled with 50 pound test. Some boats going for larger fish supply a Penn 114. If you intend to bring your own gear for party boat fishing, try either a conventional bluefishing rod with a Penn Jigmaster or a Daiwa Sealine 50H or a codfish rod matched with a Penn Senator, for larger fish in deep water. For the smaller fish, a medium/light 7½ foot spinning rod and a reel comparable to the Penn 550 is adequate. Figure 40 lb. test for the heavier outfit and 10 to 15 lb. test for the lighter one.

One of the most exciting kinds of fishing on a party boat in the Keys is for yellowtail. This fish, with its dull violet coloration accented with a yellow stripe from the head to the deeply forked tail and yellow fins, is not a weakfish. It is a member of the

(Continued on next page.)

Large mutton snappers and a tuna taken aboard a Marathon party boat.

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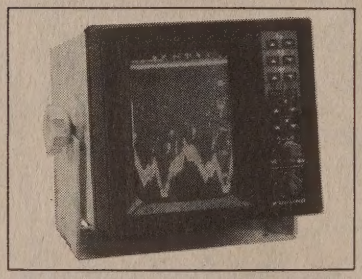
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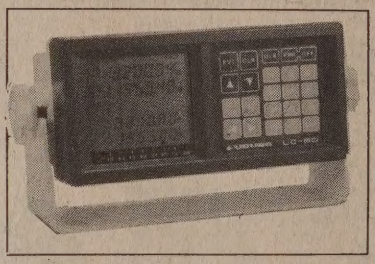
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snapper family, a relative of the red snapper. Since the fish average only 2 or 3 lbs., light tackle is employed. Yellowtails are often taken near the surface, and the fishing method is similar to fishing for bonito on party boats in the New York Bight. A #1 bonito hook is tied to the running line with an improved clinch knot (no snelled leader), and the rig floats on the surface without any weight. Some people add a couple of split shot sinkers about 18 inches above the hook, however. Grass shrimp or a small strip of ballyoo or mullet or squid is secured to the hook, which matches the yellowtail's small mouth. The light rig is then flipped away from the boat and line is paid out slowly in the current. As with bonito, you often see a school of yellowtails rising to the surface and snatching the bait only 50 feet away. The fish then moves sideways or heads for the bottom, which may be 50 or 150 feet below. Since yellowtails range through different levels of water, they are also taken on the bottom, day and night.

Larger fish, such as mutton snappers weighing 10 to 15 lbs. and red and black and golden grouper weighing 15 to 50 lbs., are taken on hard bottom, either from an anchored or a drifting boat. Grouper, particularly, are bulky fish, and have powerful shoulders, like outsized blackfish. They can easily snag a rig on the rocks and coral below. Consequently, stout tackle is required. A typical rig for these fish consists of a 4/0 O'Shaughnessy hook snelled to a 2 foot leader of 50 lb. test. Some people, in fact, use a 2 foot wire leader. In either case, a barrel swivel connects the leader to the running line. Above the swivel, a 4 oz. egg sinker has been threaded on the line. In deep water with a strong current, two of these sinkers are used. Standard bottom rigs, with the sinker below the hook, are seldom seen in the Keys.

Larger chunks or strips of ballyhoo or mullet, as well as whole baitfish are used for grouper and mutton snappers. Grouper are also fond of live baitfish, such as young yellowtails, pinfish, mangrove snappers, grunts and the like. These are hooked through the lips or in the shoulder ahead of the dorsal fin, and then sent to the bottom. On some boats, the mates catch these baitfish at dockside and keep them frisky in a live bait well. Fishermen frequently join in and make a contribution to the bait pot. Another excellent bait is a false albacore (called "bonito" here). Since no one wants it for food, the mates cut it into chunks for grouper.

Both the mutton snappers and the various groupers here are powerful fish, more difficult to hoist from the depths than a codfish of comparable size. Imagine a blackfish weighing 25 lbs. and you see what I mean. Incidentally, the grouper is a beefy fish with a great head and mouth. Mutton snapper, with a reddish coloration and a dark spot on the lateral line, just behind the pectoral fin, has a more

delicate flavor, somewhat like a red snapper's.

On some boats you are permitted to troll while heading offshore. I met an old salt on one boat who has taken false albacore, crevalle jack, cero mackerel, kingfish and hammerhead sharks this way. In the summer he trolls for dolphin fish. Imagine catching these fish on a party boat! He uses a 4/0 or 6/0 reel on a stout rod and experiments with various lures and baits. His favorite lures are a Hopkins and a bonito jig dressed with yellow hair. For baitfishing, he trolls a chunk of false albacore or a whole ballyhoo or a live yellowtail on a 2 foot wire leader with a ball bearing swivel. This kind of fishing, of course, is limited to those fishermen who have secured corner and center positions at the stern, so their lines do not tangle.

Many of the fish in the Keys are year-round residents. Although you seldom bail fish here, as compared to the quantities of mackerel taken during the spring run in the Bight, you catch a greater variety of fish on a trip. On one boat, I caught cero mackerel, mutton snappers, yellowtails, a black grouper and a grunt. On this trip, several trigger fish, a false albacore and other varieties of grouper were taken as well. In New York, you would have to fish from spring to fall to catch as many species.

If you have never been to the Keys, or to other tropical waters, you will be startled by the color of the water, which becomes increasingly visible as you cross numerous bridges between Marathon and Key West. And unlike New York you can fish off most of these bridges. Inshore, the water is the fluorescent green of a key lime pie. Then it suddenly turns a bright blue-green as the boat passes through gobs of floating Sargassum weed brought in from the Gulf Stream. Finally, you see the blue water (a luminous blue-purple) where large game fish reside. The demarcations are sharp and clear, the brilliant hues resembling artificial food coloring. And the fish, of course, are colorful, too. They are matched to the brightly colored coral reefs that extend all along the oceanside from Key Largo to Key West. Purple fish with white polka dots, white fish with red dots, yellow and white fish with black stripes—it's like fishing in a tropical aquarium.

If you can spare a few hours from boat fishing, try fishing off one of the bridges or in the flats on the bay side. Most of the fish you will catch are small, half pound or less, but their variety of color and shape and pattern is remarkable. Be prepared for some large specimens as well. Indeed, the first fish I hooked from a bridge—on a flounder rod, no less—was a great barracuda. The monster severed the line like a rubber band and took off with the bait for the Caribbean. A moment later, I saw a 50 lb. tarpon leap six feet out of the water in a head shaking fit of rage. Three fishermen in a boat had been livelining mullet under the bridge, about 50 feet from my spot.

During the winter, the Keys are crowded with fishermen and you may have to reserve a spot in advance. Other boats, as in New York, are on a first come, first served basis. There are numerous hotels and motels all along the highway. Maps and fishing literature are available on the main road as well, at tourist information stands.

Below is a partial list of party boats in the Keys:

Key Largo: Miss Majestic.

Islamorada: Miss Tradewinds, Capt. Winner Fleet, Lady Cyana, Bingo, Capt. Lady and the Caloosa.

Marathon: Above Average, Marathon Lady, Capt. Winner Fleet.

Key West: Amberjack Pier—Gulfstream, Can't Miss, plus several half day boats. Northside Pier—A in Old Town: two large boats from other states fishing here are the Yankee Capt. from Gloucester and the Ranger, formerly out of Sheepshead Bay, but now out of Texas. These boats make long trips to the Dry Tortugas where the fish are larger and abundant.

Spring fishing in the Northeast is still far away, so consider a trip to the Florida Keys. And while you're there, the key to your most productive fishing may be on a party boat.

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—FLASHBACK 1986—
SOUTH SHORE WEST
— by Stu Miller —

Where, oh where does the time go to! Another year has come and gone and a lot of trips have been sailed. Let's see how we did overall in '86.

January: Flounder made up fair to decent catches in the bay for the faithful, particularly off the Jones Beach piers on clam, with fair to decent cod action on the Freeport open boats, with pools in the 30s. Sheepshead boats contended with giant schools of macks, whiting and blacks to 6 lbs., 20 to 50 cod a day, fish 10 to 30 bls. A few 40 to 45 lbers. were bagged. Joe Golden had 18 cod, Bob Kiettner had 12 to 42 lbs. Weather then turned windy, cold and sunny, but no rain. The cod boats, when they could get out, had halfway decent catches.

The third week of the month has mixed frigid and mild days, with decent codding continuing, with more quality than quantity, still on wrecks. Dogs have thinned out on wrecks and on open bottom. The Jones Beach piers still gave forth some flatties for the loyal. A 56 lb. cod was hoisted by Jim Callahan. Hector Martinez had a 58 lber.

The final week of the month was solid wind and horrendous sea conditions. Few fished, but catches were okay, with some more big cod taken. A 45 lber. was caught on open bottom on a private boat.

February: The month started off with extremely unsettled weather and generally poor fishing conditions, leading to a very slow, picky week. There were some wreck and open bottom cod taken, though. There was excellent blackfishing for the Sheepshead fleet the first weekend of the month and also fair whiting and ling catches. Cod ran 7 to 25 lbs. with huge numbers of bergalls on wrecks. Cod were around, but scattered. Huge blacks along with ling and whiting at 17 Fathoms. Night whiting was a hot producer on the Helen H. By the second week, it was again picky on cod, ling and whiting, but the blackfishing was great at 17 Fathoms, with many 5 to 9 lbers. The open boats took a few cod each trip on wrecks and open bottom, fish of 6 to 15 lbs. A 9 lb. 8 oz. black was hoisted by Mario Costa.

The third week of the month saw cod continuing very slow. The boats caught, but the fish were very spread out on both wrecks and open bottom. Big blacks continued at 17 out of Sheepshead. A few teen cod in 60' of water on open bottom, going up to 25 lbs. Blackfish boats also had a few accidental cod to 28 lbs. at 17.

The final week saw virtually no activity, with the fierce weather keeping anglers involved in various indoor activities. Even the blackfish slowed down. The fish remained big with some excellent but erratic catches.

March: Now things started to happen again. A decent number of cod were taken. Some flounder were caught in the back and the channels. Small stuff, but a start. A few at the J.B. piers, the E. side of Massapequa Cove and the Pt. Lookout docks. Some teen size cod at Middle Grounds.

Week two, a mostly cold week, the flatties were picky and slow to kick off. Cod slow on private boats during the weekend's freezing, windy and a bit snowy weather. A couple of teen cod at Cholera at midweek at slack. Some scattered flounder catches off the J.B. piers, five 8 lb. blacks and some ling at 17. Virginia Kilgore of Brooklyn bags a 12 lb. black in the Pilot II.

The third week brought in some warmer weather. Flounder came to life at last all over the inside—not super, but the fish were definitely there. A big improvement. Deep holes were best, such as at the 3rd Wantagh, the E. side of Massapequa Cove and the J.B. piers. Many of the usual flounder spots saw action. Very good blacks to 10 lbs. and accidental cod and pollock out of Sheepshead.

The final week of March had more consistent flounder catches, with favorable winds and higher air and water temps. Mostly keeper class flounder now. all over the ioint.

April: With the water warming, flounder catches were fair to good, with an occasional heavy hit. In general, things were hurt by strong weekend tides. Some cod were caught at Cholera by private boats. Heavy chumming was important for any kind of strong catches and that held true all season long. Cholera cod ran 11 to 18 lbs. Ben Taylor took an early season 2½ lb. flattie. Party boat floundering was very good, with the biggest fish at Squaw. Also good flounder off the North and South Channel bridges over Jamaica Bay. Blacks were fair to good out of Sheepshead Bay.

The following week had weekdays fair to very good during the week, with the weekend getting slammed by wind and rain. However, flounder were caught all week and were building.

The next week was full of high winds, muddy water and moon tides, all of which combined to make floundering a big effort. Even so, there were a few nice catches. Blacks continued to oblige and a few early fluke were caught. Some individual flattie catches of 30 plus a man were had. One angler had 60 blacks at the Big M. Blacks were great at Seabright, fish up to 9¾ lbs. Flounder fair off Cedar and Squaw Islands.

The final week of April was also cold, rainy and windy which resulted in a heave on the weekend outside and muddied water inside. All this made for tough fishing, but there was some action nonetheless. Some flounder at Black Banks, Zachs and the Meadowbrook. Good blackfishing at the Meadowbrook also. A big body of macks off Manasquan and moving our way. Macks, whiting and LOADS of herring offshore. Blacks good at the Stone Barge. Blacks at the Atlantic Beach Bridge and herring off the Magnolia Blvd. Pier. Divers spot loads of flounder and blacks under the Big M, all of which are sluggish due to the very cold water. A lot of herring and whiting 12 mi. S. of Jones. Blacks and flatties at the Jamaica Bay bridges. Good west end flounder off Plum and Gerrittsen Beaches and at the jetties. Whiting and ling at 17 and Ambrose Tower.

May: This fair month started off with the flounder coming alive once again. Fish all good size, to 3 lbs., and almost no throwbacks. Blacks took hold early and nicely at most bridges and local wrecks, fish to 9½ lbs. Flounder good at all their usual haunts on the inside, with the best around the high at the Big M. Good mixed macks and herring at the Mud Hole. Tony Tolda bags an 8½ lb. black at the Big M. Blacks, sea bass and ling now at the inshore wrecks. Blacks at the Loop Bridge, plus ling at the T Wreck. Blacks also at the ABB and the B4 wreck. Mixed flatties and blacks all over Jamaica Bay. The Sheepshead Bay boats have very good floundering. Mackerel continue to move closer everyday. There are a few scattered huge ling catches on the Flamingo III. In the second week of the month, mackerel grab athe spotlight. Big Bostons. Flounder range from picky to excellent. Fluke are caught, but many midgets. There's good flounder activity all over with

heavy chumming a must. Great blackfishing at the bridges, with macks now in 75 ft. of water just SE of Cholera. The open boats are getting big hauls. Fluke in Sloop and Reynolds. One to three bags of macks a man on the open boats. Mud Hole is mackerel city. Super blackfishing at the ABB up to 7 lbs. The Helen H does a job with night whiting.

During week 3, there was more warmth than wind, which helped matters. Flounder were fair to good with some exceptional catches at Massapequa Cove. Lots of short fluke being caught, but with enough keepers to make the effort worth while. Blues started in the bays and inlets and out to Cholera. Rowboat Alley was hot for flounder, as was the S-turn. Blacks to 5 lbs. at the bridges were consistent. Fantastic fluking, but a low percentage of keepers, but ALL over the place. Macks seem to have departed, with blues taking over, up to 5 lbs. at Cholera. So sthe macks gave us a brief but exciting appearance. Floundering good to very good. A 12 lb. black at the ABB weighed in at Beckmann's. A lot of 2 to 4 lb. blues in Jamaica Bay and all along the Rockaway beaches. Also at the Tin Can on diamonds. Excellent blackfishing off the Jersey coast.

The fourth week of the month, everything broke loose, with the warm weather and lack of winds. Flounder were good to fabulous. Blacks remained consistent at the bridges, while numbers of fluke remained strong, with a fair number of keepers. Weaks continued to be picked around the bridges and to the east, while hordes of bay blues inundated the area, both outside and through Reynolds and Sloop Channels. Flounder remained strong in the usual areas. Great blacks at the Big M. Good sea bass to 4 lbs. along with big ling, blacks, a few stray cod and blues. Flounder consistent all week on the open and charter boats. Super mixed bags on wrecks. Reynolds held a lot of fluke, but a lot were throwbacks. Big blues off the Jamaica Bay bridges. Loads of 3 to 10 lb. blues out of Sheepshead Bay on jigs and good Sheepshead fluking with a fair keeper ratio.

The last week of May saw very good action and catches of flounder, fluke and bay blues with a tapering down on the bridge blackfishing. The three sunny, beautiful days of the weekend saw plenty of fishing done, plenty of boat traffic and lots of catches put together. Fluke action stayed very strong, but with loads of throwbacks. Enough keepers, though. In general, a strong week.

Super flounder in the usual places all over the bay. Weaks and blues at the bridges. Charlie D. had 60 flounder to 3 lbs. 10 oz. at the Big M. Blues and weaks on tin in the AM, at the mouth of Jones. Excellent sea bass, ling and blacks outside, with some cod and blues thrown in. Loads of "gigunda" blues offshore on the shark grounds. Very good ling and sea bass at the B4 wreck. Blues all over the place, any method. Blacks, flounder and blues off the Jamaica Bay bridges. Also, good fluking off the Rockaways. Great day and night blues on the open boats.

June: June began with a lot of activity. The weather cooperated nicely and the fish fed hungrily. Flounder action was good to super. The fluke action was dynamite, but with an extremely high midget count. Loads of bay blues throughout the inlets and main channels with some bigger choppers offshore and to the west. Local wrecks and reefs have been yielding excellent catches of blackfish, sea bass and ling. A few scattered weakfish catches have been made. Very good picture overall. Offshore blues dynamite 2 to 6 lbers.

Those out fishing the second week of the month certainly had enough action on their hands, despite a couple of days of almost unfishable weather. Ocean bottom action was very active on the wrecks, flounder in the holes and around the bridges continued to be quite decent. Fluke action was second to none, but with tons of throwbacks while blackfishing took a little downturn. Sea bass on the inshore wrecks were very decent. Bay blues blitzed inlets and main channels while super bluefish catches were made off the Jersey and S.I. coasts. Mel Tereirla nailed an 8 lb. 6 oz. fluke.

During week 3 of the month, an influx of good sized mako and blue shark livened up the week's action, joining super catches of blues to 15 lbs. Plenty of fluke activity and some very decent flounder catches. Fishing was very consistent, with the assistance of the settled weather. There have also been some very good catches of blueclaw crabs. The party boats have gone to their day and night bluefish schedules. Still loads of short fluke. Jumbo blues on the shark grounds and animals at night. Strong sea bass and ling on the wrecks. Flounder action hot. Lots of fluke from the Tin Can to Playland. A 335 lb. mako for Gary Senser. Fluke and blues keep Jamaica Bay anglers very happy.

The last week of the month saw very good catches, with decent weather helping. Plenty of blues, flounder and fluke kept rods bent. A few big weaks around and a showing of snappers and blueclaws. Offshore, the spotlight has been hogged by sharks, with plenty of mako and blue shark being caught, others being dropped. Lots of larger fluke being caught, with many 3 to 4 lbers. Floundering remained strong. Two hundred and thirteen boats entered the Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament and 40 makos were weighed in. Mike Stone on the Rolling Stone took 1st prize with a 398 lb. thresher, with Howie Wilder on the rod. This was a $13,300 fish. It was an 11 lb. 10 oz. weak for Doug Packard on a live bunker at the Ruffle Bar. Great blues at 17 Fathoms.

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THE TERMINAL END:

WEAKFISH RIGS

by Russ Wilson

For more than thirty years fishermen did not have the opportunity to catch weakfish and many felt these lovely spotted sea trout would never return to North Atlantic coastal waters. But, in the mid-60s fishermen began to pick up an occasional weakfish and by the early 70s, the fish were again well established throughout Delaware to New England coastal waters.

The weakfish, **Cynoscion regalis**, is far from being a whimpy fighter. The name is derived from the paper thin tissue that makes up the mouth structure. As many anglers have discovered, too much rod pressure can easily rip a hook free from the flimsy tissue, allowing the fish to escape.

Coloration-wise, the weakfish is one of the most brightly marked inshore species. The belly is a light cream, shading to various shades of blues, greens and purples across the sides and back. A freshly caught weakfish outshines all of the glamour species and in addition, is also excellent to eat.

Ranging from New England waters to the Chesapeake Bay, with some isolated fish being caught further south, the weakfish grows to respectable sizes. A mature fish will weigh upwards of 15 lbs. and specimens weighing more than 18 lbs. have been reported in recent years.

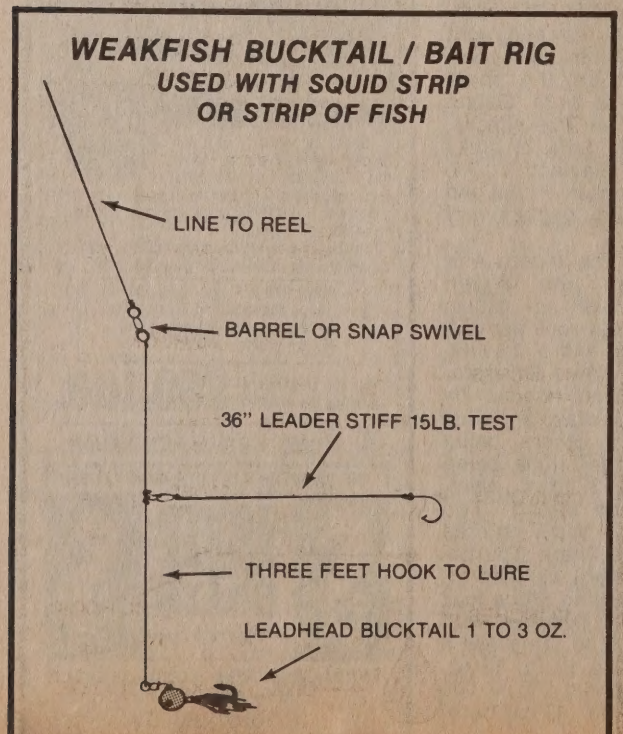
The average size weakfish taken from estuary or inshore coastal waters will weigh between 3 and 8 pounds and will measure somewhere in the neighborhood of 20 to 28 inches from tip of nose to tail.

Weakfish are predators and will prey upon most any species of smaller fish, crabs, eels and sea worms. Sand or blood worms are a very popular offering, but shedder crab, live eels, live herring or bunker (menhaden) and small snapper bluefish are other effective baits for taking large weakfish during spring, summer and fall.

Chumming was popular in the past, but has lost its appeal in recent years due to the advances in artificial lure manufacturing techniques and the abundance of sand launce (sand eels) throughout coastal waters. Today's weakfisherman will usually pick up a flat of worms or maybe a dozen or two shedder crab when planning an all day sortie for weakies.

Bucktailing is also extremely popular among experienced weakfishermen who ply the coastal rivers and bays. A bucktail (leadhead jig weighing 1/2 to 3 oz.) used in combination with a plastic worm or a real sand worm can be deadly for catching larger weakfish. This combination is used extensively throughout Delaware Bay, Sandy Hook/Raritan Bay and in the Peconic Bay region, but it will produce weakfish from any of the waters they inhabit and should be carried by anyone who hopes to become successful at catching these lovely game fish.

Weakfish usually arrive in north coastal waters sometime shortly after mid-April. The large roe-laden females and milt-carrying males will move into the bays as water temperatures climb into the 50 degree range. Upon entering the rivers and bays the big tiderunners do not immediately begin to feed. Commercial netters will register the first catches while hook and liners may not bring a weakie into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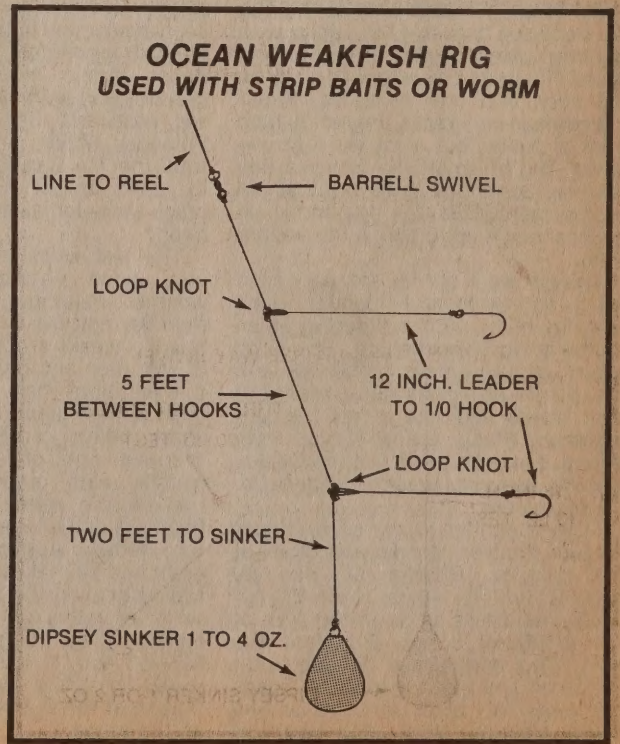

port until a couple of weeks following the first net catches.

As a general rule, weakfish will begin to attack baits and lures when water temperatures rise into the 60 degree range. In more southerly areas this occurs during early or mid-May, while further north the actual date may be as late as mid-June.

Those early arrivals are spawners and are the biggest kind of weakfish with some hitting the scale at more than 15 lbs. Last year a whopper female weakfish weighing 18½ lbs. was taken from Delaware Bay during May and another of 18¼ lbs. was pulled from Sandy Hook Bay during the month of August. These monster tiderunners are, of course, exceptional. If you happen to catch a 12 to 15 pounder, you have bragging rights.

Last year in May we lucked into a 16½ lb. female tiderunner when casting a one ounce Mr. Twister leadhead that was tipped with a purple Twister plastic worm. When that fish was netted and lifted into the boat it looked gigantic and we were positive it was large enough to crack the existing state record. Big weakfish are deceiving due to their stocky but deep bodied appearance. Once spawning has been completed, the fish regain their slender (about four times as long as deep) shape and are more aggressive in their fighting habits.

Larger weakies will inhabit inshore waters throughout the summer and fall months and can be caught when diamond jigging, trolling, chumming with grass shrimp or when drift fishing the shallows.

As cooler weather approaches, the larger weakfish will generally move off to deeper waters or will migrate south along the coast in the company of big striped bass and blues. Smaller weakfish or "spikes" as many old-timers call the little 12 to 15 inchers will then inhabit the inshore waters and can be caught in tremendous numbers when using a high-low rig baited with strips of squid, small snapper blues or fillets cut from a small snapper.

The duration of this inshore run of small weakfish can vary and is entirely dependent on existing water temperatures and the availability of baitfish. In years when mild weather lingers into October, the small weakies will inhabit inshore waters longer while during years of colder weather they may vacate the shallows as early as the first week of October.

Usually the smaller weakfish will travel in large schools and may be found in depths of less than 20 feet. Last season, for example, the tightly packed schools of "spikes" moved into the shallows during September and were still being caught during the first two weeks of November.

More often than not, basic bottom rigs will put fish in the boat or on the sand. The rigs we'll describe have been tested for many years and are proven weakfish catchers. You could do a lot worse than try those that are illustrated along with this week's column.

Weakfish Bucktail/Bait Rig: Quite often you'll find weakfish inhabiting different water depths. Some fish will hug the bottom while others in the same school may be found several feet off the bottom. The bucktail and natural bait rig is the ticket for catching weakfish under conditions such as these. To tie this rig you'll need a 5 foot section of 20 lb. test stiff leader material for the main leader to which you will attach the bucktail. A second length of 20 lb. test STIFF leader material is then used to tie in a 3 foot leader to which you've snelled a 1/0 or 2/0 short shank beak style hook.

As illustrated, the bucktail rests on bottom while the bait hook is tied in 3 feet above the bucktail on a 3 foot leader so it sticks out from the main leader. Top off the rig with a quality ball bearing barrel swivel or snap swivel and you are set to tangle with any weakfish that comes your way.

Ocean Weakfish Rig: This rig is very popular among weakfishermen who probe moderate depth ocean waters and has accounted for untold thousands of bragging size tiderunners. The bottom-most hook is tied in two feet above a dipsy sinker (weight depends on water depth and tidal flow) and is rigged to set 12 inches out from the main leader. Again, use a 1/0 or 2/0 short shank style hook when making this rig. Three feet above the bottom hook tie in a second 12 inch leader and 1/0 or 2/0 hook. Both 12 inch leaders must be tied from STIFF leader material or they will wrap back around the main leader making the rig ineffective.

This rig is constructed for use with strip baits, live killiefish, snapper bluefish, squid strips, or pieces of shedder crab. It can be used when fishing inshore waters of only 10 to 20 feet in depth, but is equally effective when used to probe depths of more than 60 feet. The use of a dipsy sinker allows the rig to move along bottom easier as the boat drifts while a

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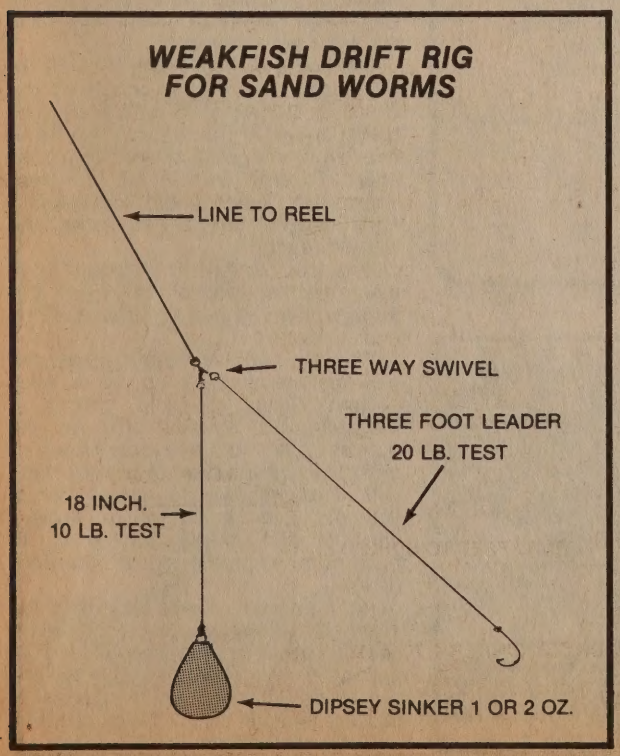

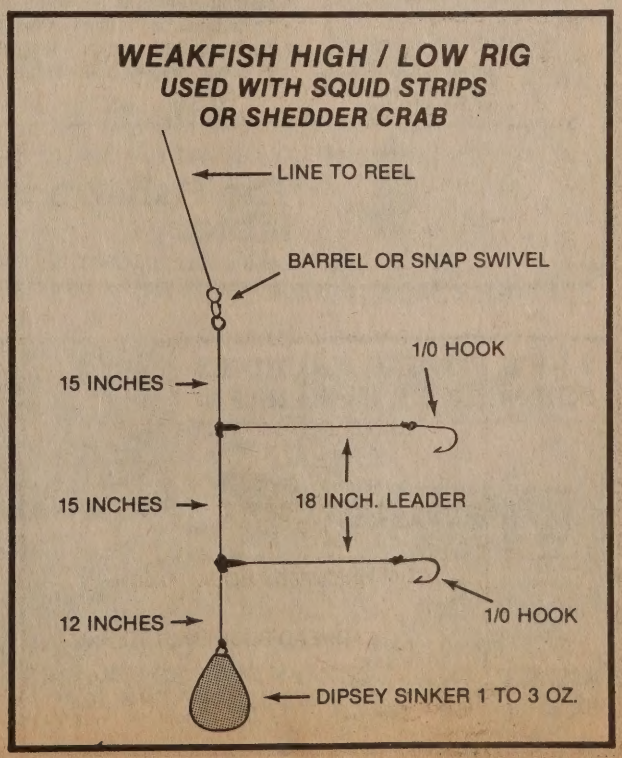

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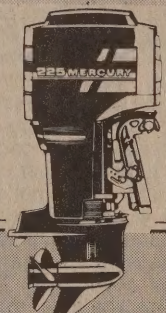
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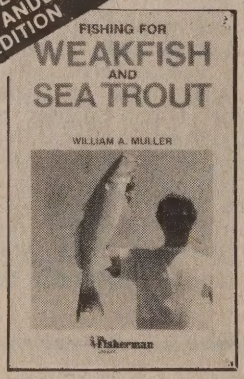
FISHING FOR WEAKFISH AND SEA TROUT
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pyramid or bank sinker has more drag and will often hamper the natural drift of the rig.

Weakfish Drift Rig: Anglers who fish the coastal river and bays and rely on sand or blood worms as their main bait for catching weakfish will find this rig a very productive addition to their weakfish arsenal. We've used the drift rig for many, many years when fishing coastal rivers and bays and feel it is the best natural bait rig we have found. Easy to tie, the drift rig will allow you to fish channel edges, dropoffs, lumps, ridges and other structure areas without worry of hanging bottom every time the rig crosses over the underwater obstacle.

We use a three way swivel to start this rig off. One eye is used to attach the 18 inch dropper that holds the dipsy sinker. Use a slightly lighter piece of leader material for this dropper so if you do hang bottom all you'll lose is a sinker which can quickly be retied and dropped back into the water.

The main leader, the one that has the snelled hook, is 15 or 20 lb. test clear monofilament and should be of stiff leader material to keep the leader from wrapping back on the dropper. This is attached to the second eye of the three way, leaving one eye for you to attach your snap swivel or barrel swivel. If you tie this rig right you won't have any tangles and your weakfish scores should show a dramatic improvement.

Weakfish High-Low Rig: Most experienced weakfishermen who probe the bays throughout spring and summer will eventually discover the High-Low rig. It is a deadly way to separate weakfish from their watery home and throughout the years has racked up some impressive catches for weakfishermen who ply the southern area waters.

We use a 3½ foot length of 20 lb. test leader material to construct the basic rig. Starting off with a snap or barrel swivel at the top end, we tie in two loop knots, each spaced 15 inches apart. To each loop attach a snelled hook on an 18 inch leader, again using stiff leader material to make the snelled leaders.

One foot beneath the bottom hook make another loop or just tie in the dipsy sinker using an improved clinch knot to secure it.

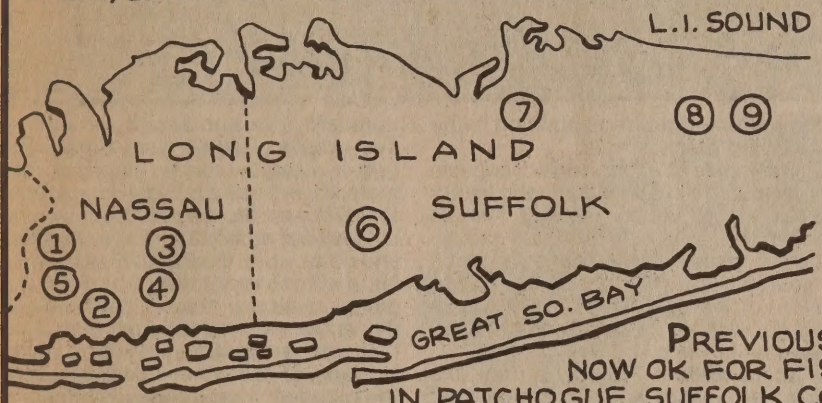
This rig can be deadly when the weakies are stacked up on or near bottom. Strips of squid, pieces of shedder crab, a squid strip on the bottom hook and a live killie on top or most any combination of proven baits will often net double-headers when you get over a school of hungry weakfish and use this kind of rig to present a smorgasbord of different baits.

That's about it. There are hundreds of other weakfish rigs currently being sold throughout the coastal region and most will catch fish. These are but a few of those we've used with success and can recommend to others without reservation.

NORTHEAST NEWS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

NINE LONG ISLAND PONDS HAVE BEEN DECLARED OFF LIMITS FOR FISHING BY THE N.Y. STATE DEP'T. OF E.C. BECAUSE OF PCB'S AND THE PESTICIDE CHLORDANE IN THESE FISH...SUNFISH, BLUEGILLS, CARP, WHITE PERCH, GOLD FISH, CRAPPIES AND LARGEMOUTH BASS.



TAINTED PONDS:

1-HALL'S PD. W. HEMPST'D
2-LOFT'S PD. BALDWIN
3-SMITH PD. ROOSVLT PARK
4-FREEPORT RESERVOIR
5-SMITH PD. R'CKVILLE CTR.
6-BELMONT LAKE, BABYLON
7-ST. JAMES PD. ST. JAMES
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PREVIOUSLY POLLUTED WATERS NOW OK FOR FISHING ARE CANAAN LAKE IN PATCHOGUE, SUFFOLK CO. AND MASSAPEQUA RESERVOIR, NASSAU CO... *EXCEPT FOR WHITE PERCH.*

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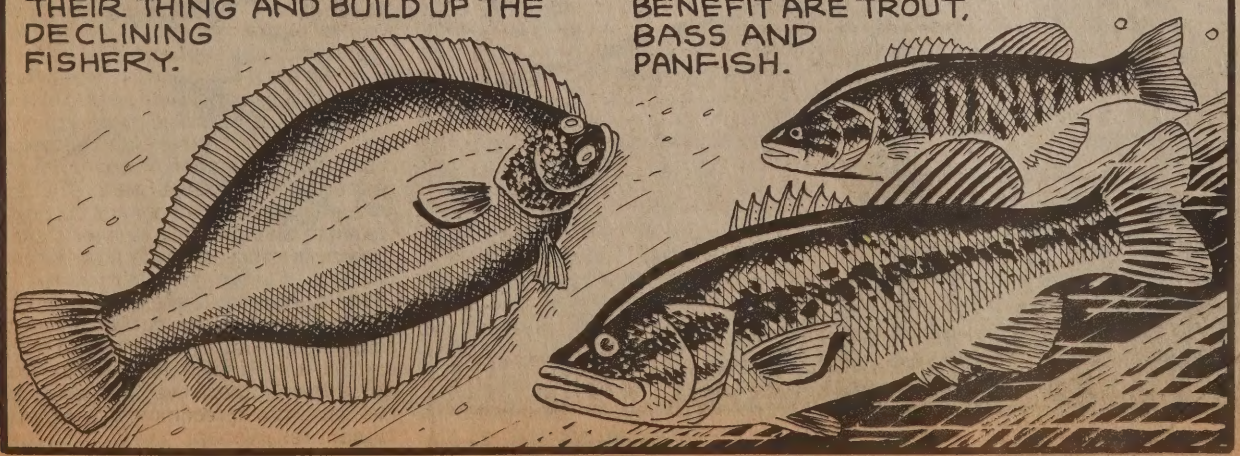
-NORTH & SOUTH BRANCHES
TOMS RIVER *-NORTH & SOUTH BRANCHES*

WINTER FLOUNDER FISHING IS NOW CLOSED IN CONNECTICUT'S NIANTIC RIVER *DEC. 1 THROUGH MAR. 31* IN THE AREA UPSTREAM FROM THE RT. 156 BRIDGE BETWEEN WATERFORD AND EAST LYME IN THE HOPE THAT THE SPAWN LADEN FLATFISH WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO DO THEIR THING AND BUILD UP THE DECLINING FISHERY.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THE G.E. CO. IS TRYING TO CLEAN UP THE HOUSATONIC RIVER BY INSTALLING *"STOP LOGS"* AT THE G.E. PITTSFIELD, MASS. PLANT. THE *"STOP LOGS"* ARE PLACED TO STOP THE G.E. PCB'S FROM COMING DOWNSTREAM AT THE WOODS POND DAM. FISH TO BENEFIT ARE TROUT, BASS AND PANFISH.



WHAT'S NEW IN FISHING BOATS: 1987

Part Two—*by John Raguso*

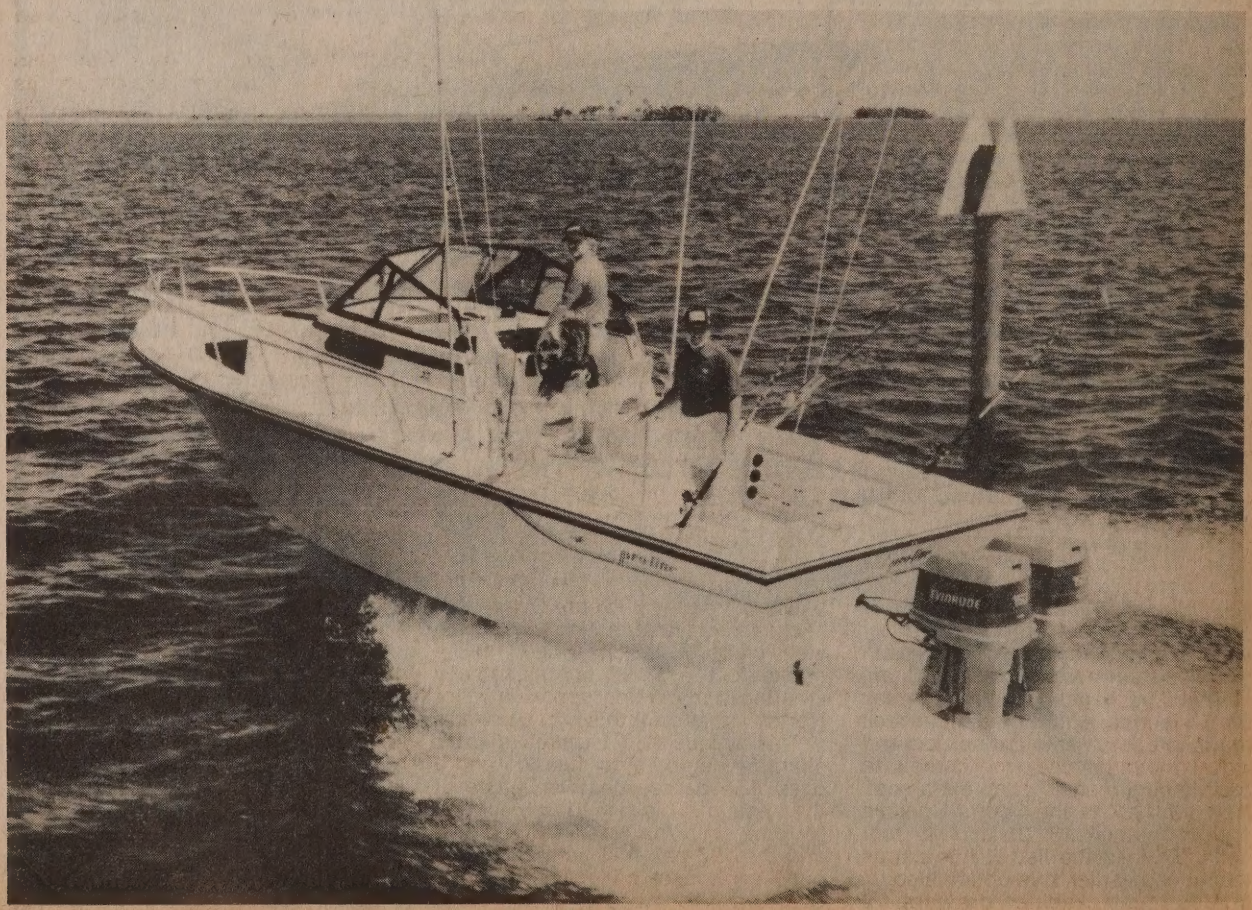
Picking up from where we left off last week, we're going to review the new product offeirngs from additional boatbuilders for fishing machines up to 28 feet in length. There's a lot of data to cover, so let's get right into the meat and potatoes of what's happening for the new model year.

Pro-Line: The big news coming from the Pro-Line folks for '87 is their new 25' 2" x 10' deep vee walkaround cuddy. I scrutinized this latest addition to their lineup at the Norwalk Boat Show last fall, and I was impressed with the boat's overall roominess and cockpit space. According to President Don Atwood, this hull comes with a 167 gal. tank, 2x50 gal. fish boxes, a 40 gal. live well, basic foam flotation and an 18 degree transom deadrise hull. The outboard version weighs-in at 4,700 lbs., and she also comes in I/O and OMC Sea Drive power options, in addition to the outboard bracket drive.

Pro-Line's 21 foot center console has undergone some cosmetic layout changes for this year as well. They've taken the same 20' 6" x 8' hull and added a larger, higher console that's mounted a tad more towards the stern of the boat. This C/C features a 28 gal. fishbox forward and a 26 gal. livewell in the stern.

Black Watch: The scoop from this relative newcomer to the bluewater beat is that they've expanded their product line to include a mid-sized 6 footer. As its bigger 30 foot sister, this mini Black Watch was created by the renowned Raymond Hunt Associates design team. She measures 26' 1" x 9' 8" and features an 18 degree deadrise angle at the stern. According to Marketing Exec Mike Cooper, the boat will be offered in either the traditional outboard transom design, or with a duo prop/jack shaft stern drive with gas or diesel inboards. All power formats will include a 200 gal. long range fuel cell, and the outboard will weigh-in at about 4,600 lbs., while the I/Os should be up in the 5,800 lb. neighborhood. Accommodations include a galley, enclosed head, V-berth below decks and a fiberglass inner liner. The hull will be constructed from a combination of hand-laid fiberglass and the high tech cored divinycell material. Projected speed with twin 200 Merc outboards is 45-50 MPH, and that's really cookin'! The factory is planning on deliveries starting in March of 1987.

Chris Craft: For 1987, this Bradenton, Florida boat builder continues with its popular 21 and 25 Sea Hawk fishing boat series. The 21 Sea Hawk is based on a 21' 3" x 8' hull, and



Pro-Line 25

comes in either walkaround cuddy outboard or I/O, plus an outboard center console. The outboards come with an 80 gal. fuel capacity, while the I/O comes stock with a 60 gal. tank. The larger 25 Sea Hawk is based on a wider 24' 10" x 9' hull and comes with a 110 gal. fuel cell in either I/O or outboard bracket design.

Rampage: This Rhode Island builder, a division of Tillotson-Pearson, Inc., manufactures two offshore fishing hulls. One is a 24' 6" (with bow pulpit) x 9' 11" platform that comes in either center console or full cuddy cabin, while the other is a 29' 6" (with bow pulpit) x 11' cuddy cabin. Although the larger Rampage will go relatively unchanged for the impending model year, there have been some significant revisions on the 24 foot series Rampages.

Starting off with the 24 Mark II Tournament center console, the engineers repositioned the console about 3' aft of its former location, to free up a tantamount area foward of the helm station. The console was also redesigned a bit to cover the engine and eliminate the stern engine box compartment, thus creating more room aft in the process. The C/C features a 130 gal. fuel capacity for its single inboard power plant, which comes in either 260 or 330 hp gas, or 200 hp diesel options.

The 24' Express Cuddy has added a molded instrument box at the helm station, above the steering wheel, to provide out-of-the-elements storage for your electronics. This compartment is 216 square inches and is large enough to house a Loran C and a VHF radio with no problems. In the cabin, the old chart locker to port has been expanded to include an optional stainless steel sink, with a storage bin placed underneath. A hideaway one-burner stove has also been added to the cockpit area on the port side. This cuddy tips the scales at 4,900 lbs. with power, and is designed on the same hull as the Mark II. Power options include either a straight inboard or inboard/outboard coupled to a 260 hp gas engine. According to Public Relations manager Neil Smith, a 24 foot Rampage in outboard power format is on the proximate horizon.

Steiger Craft: AVS Laminates in Bellport, L.I. has been turning out a quality workboat for a number of years. Recently, they have been redesigning these hulls to be more functional as sport fishing machines, and this year there are a number of positive changes in that regard. For the most part, the Steiger Craft lineup includes more features in their standard hull package. Items like Teleflex Big-T steering, an SS steering wheel, foam flotation, Perko rod holders and a dash mounted fuse panel come with their fishing models at no extra cost. New for 1987 is the Sports Console option on their 18, 21 and 25 foot hulls. Besides the list of free extras mentioned earlier, this option also includes teak tackle drawers, 2 pedestal chairs and an SS cleat package. Power choices for the 18 footer are outboard only; for the 21 foot hull outboard, outboard bracket, or I/O; for the wide beam 25 foot platform outboard, outboard bracket, I/O or straight inboard in gas or diesel are the possbilities. According to market ing manager Mike Blair, all Steiger Craft boats are 100 percent hand laid fiberglass. AVS is also working on a 23' x 8' 6" wide body C/C and cuddy cabin boat, slated for a late spring introduction.

Rampage 24 Mark II

North Coast: Bursting onto the saltwater scene with the impact of a tidal wave is this Hyannis, Massachusetts-based builder. The only hull that they're offering this season is their brand new 23'x10"x9' platform, but in two different layouts: fully cuddy cabin skiff or center console.

When I first saw the outboard skiff at the Freeport Boat Show last fall, I knew that her lines looked familiar. After closer investigation, I found out that she was designed by Charlie Jannace and Kim Bradley, formerly of Black Fin association. This boat's quality construction and finishing detail certainly reminded me of some of the Black Fins I've had the pleasure to be on. I think that's what the builders tried to create with this package: a miniature Black Fin, especially since the BF 5 has been off the market for the last 18 months, thereby creating a marketing opportunity for North Coast to fill this product void.

This unique hull features a razor sharp 54 degree entry forward and a deep 23.5 degree deadrise angle at the transom. This is medicine enough to tame even the cruelest head sea, and the 197 gal. fuel tank gives this pony an honest canyon range. The outboard and inboard cuddy cabin will be available for delivery starting in February of 1987. The center console outboard and I/O cuddy should be ready by the late spring. I'll be doing a "Boats For Anglers" performance review on this baby later this year, so if you're seriously considering this boat, keep your eyes peeled for the analysis.

Black Fin: The big news from this Florida boat builder known for its heavyweight hulls, is that an old favorite is coming back by popular demand. Marketing Exec Steve Harris informed me that the discontinued 25'x8' platform, out of production for the last 18 months, will be reintroduced this spring with a rearranged cockpit layout, plus an expanded 200 gal. fuel tank. It will come in either the center console or combi cabin format, and power options include transom bracket outboards or a single inboard. These boat feature wooden stringers completely encapsulated by fiberglass, as well as a 100 percent hand laid hull, deck and hatches. This bruiser weighs in at an incredible 6500+ pounds without power, and according to Mr. Harris "...the extra weight is in the glass layup. It's what people pay a good price for, and it's what we give them!"

Formula: The major blockbuster scoop from this Indiana-based builder is that they have dropped their modest sportfishing lineup for 1987! In a phone conversation with assistant marketing manager Lisa Clifton, she went on to say that there just wasn't enough consumer interest in the 21' F3 Sportfisherman or the recently introduced 24 foot 242 SF to keep up production for this model year. Accordingly, Formula will concentrate only on performance and cruising boats for the immediate future.

WINTER MAINTENANCE:
REEL CARE

by Boyd Pfeiffer

Reels require just as much—maybe more—wintertime maintenance than any other form of tackle. Both maintenance and repair are relatively easy with reels, provided that you have a few basic tools and observe a few simple guidelines.

First, check the line on the reel. If it has been on a couple of seasons, you should replace it with new line. If the line is relatively new, it may be all right provided that it did not suffer damage or severe abrasion this past season. If there is any question, or if the line is old, remove it, completely clean, lube and repair the reel and then replace with new line.

Assuming that the line is removed, begin to check your reel by backing off the drag (this should be done after each fishing trip, but check to be sure) and washing the reel in warm water to remove any algae, salt spray or grime. If possible, remove the spool and wash the reel and spool separately. This is easy to do with fly reels, spinning reels and bait casting reels with thumb screw secured side plates. If it is difficult, wait until later. When removing the spool, be careful to note the position of, and to not lose, any small parts such as washers under spinning reel spools and brake blocks on some non-magnetic casting reels.

Rinse off the reel. If coated with algae or salt spray, use a small brush (an old toothbrush works well) to clean in cracks and crevices. Remove it from the water and check for any additional spots that need cleaning. Very small parts are best cleaned with a cotton tipped swab or a toothpick.

Use a clean rag to clean off any dirt and grime on or around moving parts, such as the cup on older style spinning reels or under the skirted spool on newer type spinning reels. Other places to check are under the palming plate of casting reels and on the inside of the side plates on casting and saltwater reels.

Once the reel is clean, remove from the water and allow to dry and drain. A hair dryer works well here and will prevent any rust. You might also give the outer part of the reel a light spray with a demoisturizing agent such as WD-40, CRC, P-38, LPS, etc. And if you have monofilament line on the reel, these products will not harm it and some anglers have even suggested that the smell of these demoisturizers helps to attract fish.

At this point you have a choice. Do you just check it over, lightly oil and grease those visible parts and let it go, or do you open the reel up to check for any internal damage or for a thorough cleaning and relubrication?

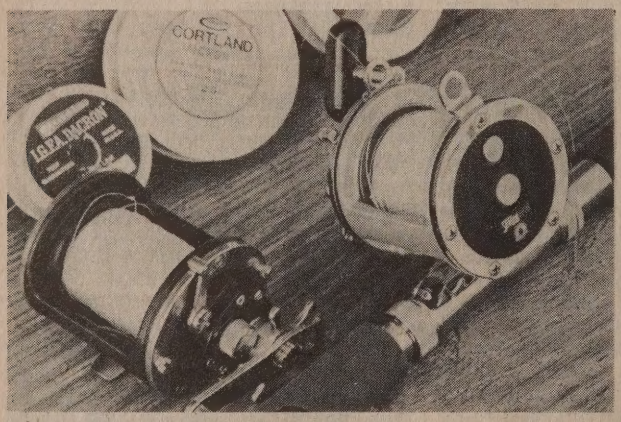
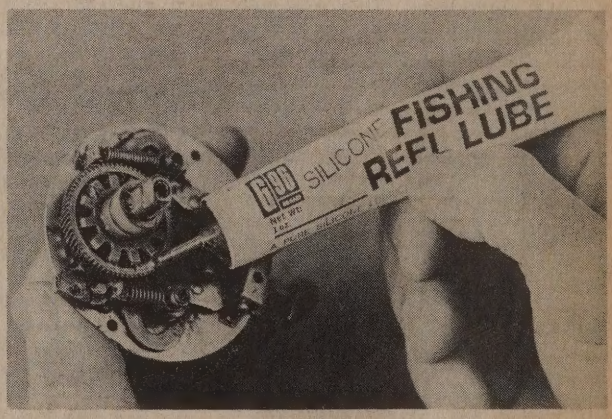


Photo One



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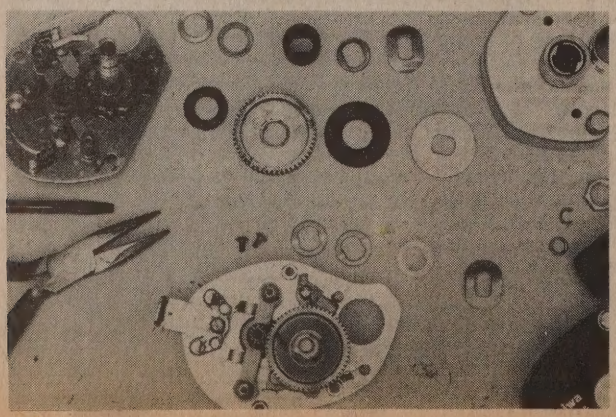

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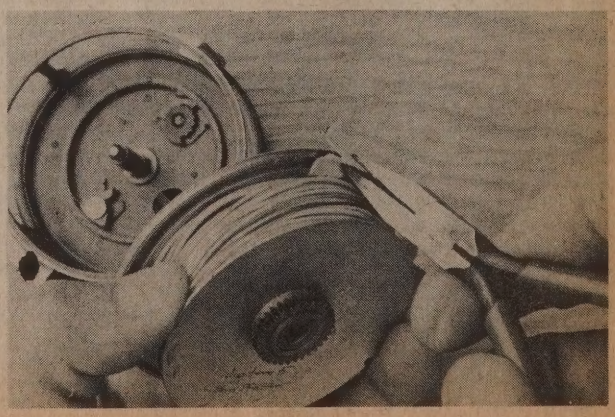


Photo Four

The answer, if there is a simple one, usually lies in how you have treated the reel all season.

If it has worked well, been washed off after each use, with handles, bail arm, level wind and any special oil ports regularly lubricated and checked, if the drag was backed off after each trip to prevent deforming the soft washers, and if the reel performed flawlessly, then a simple oil and lube is probably all that is required. For this, get out the reel manual received when you bought the reel. (You did save it, didn't you?) Use either the oil and grease tubes that came with the reel or other similar oil and grease to lube those parts that are indicated in the schematic drawing of the reel lubrication schedule.

Usually these parts are as follows:

Casting reels. Oil the handles, handle shat, level wind bar and track, ends of spool shafts (through caps on the end of each spool shaft). Grease the level wind and pawl.

Spinning reels. Oil the handle, shaft, bail bearings, and the main shaft holding the spool.

Saltwater reels. Whether regular conventional reels or spinning reels, be sure to lubricate all the parts listed above, along with any special spring loaded oil ports found in the side plates such as are located in Penn and other saltwater reels.

Spincast reels. Lubricate the handle, handle shaft. If able to remove the nose cone and spool easily, lubricate the shaft of the reel.

Fly reels. Remove the spool and lubricate the main shaft and any click pawls and drag adjustments. (Do not lubricate the drag surfaces unless indicated in the reel manual.)

You may wish to proceed further than a simple oiling and greasing as above. In this case, get out the schematic drawing of the rel for help and line up the small regular and Phillips screwdrivers, nut drivers and other tools that you will need to dismantle the reel. In most cases, the manufacturers supply a reel tool for this. They will work, but are not the most comfortable tool to use. Most are multipurpose and of flat metal. Also plan on a system of faking off parts and keeping them in order of removal for easy re-assembly. Good ideas here include a biscuit tin, egg carton or other compartment box (lure and tackle boxes also work) to hold each small part in turn.

Begin by removing the main part of the reel to expose the inner gears as outlined in the reel manual. With spinning reels this usually requires removal of the side plate that is held in place with two or more screws. Usually you will have to remove the handle first. For casting reels, most have thumb screws to remove the right side plate to allow spool removal and access to the gears in the side plates.

Fly reels are mostly simple frames and spools so that removal of the spool allows access to the whole inner reels. Spincast reels are usually exposed through removal of the nose cone and spool although they vary greatly in access to the main gears.

Saltwater reel gears can be reached through removal of one of the side plates, again following the reel manual.

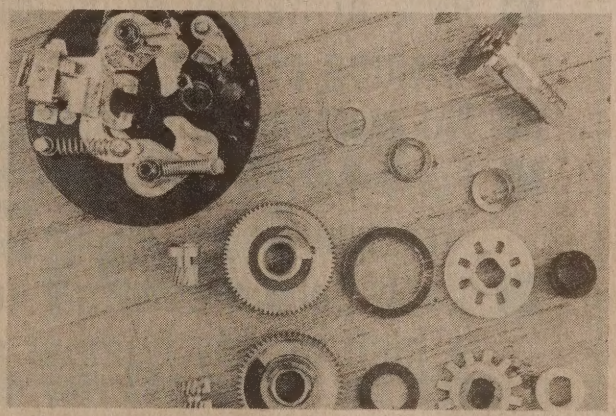
Once the gears and inner parts of the reels are exposed, it helps to clean each part and examine it for wear. At one time, the best solution for cleaning metal reel parts was mineral spirits—a solvent like solution that quickly removes grease and oils. Today, with the widespread use of many different types of plastics in reels and the possibility of reaction with organic solvents, the best cleaning is with a strong soap or detergent solution, again using a small toothbrush to clean each part.

While cleaning all the parts, check the drag washers for wear and damage and replace if necessary. The hard metal washers will usually be fine, but the softer fiber, leather or Teflon washers may require replacement.

On casting reels, or level wind reels of any type, be sure to check the level wind mechanism and the pawl for wear. Often reel manufacturers will supply spare pawls for replacement. On spinning reels, check bail springs and check the reel generally for any roughness or wear.

(Continued on next page.)

Photo Five



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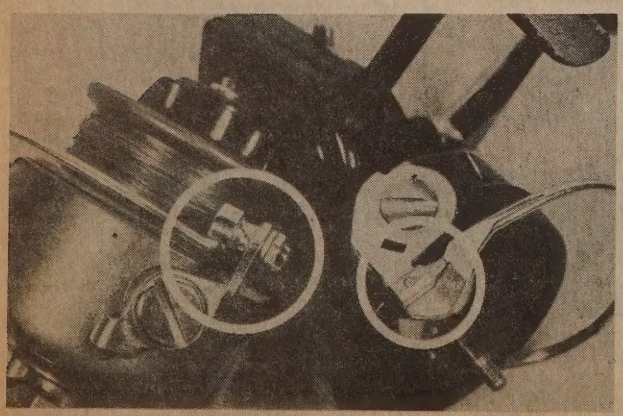

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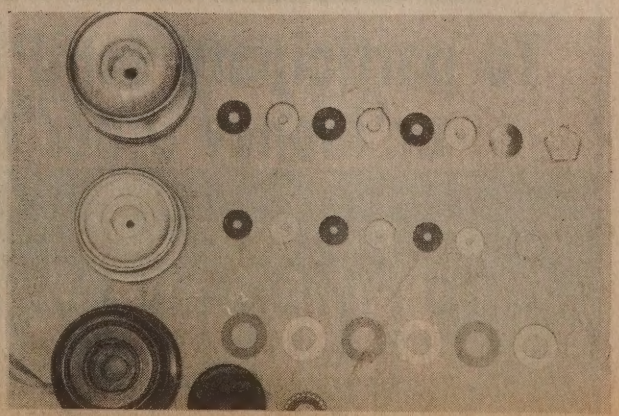

Photo Eight

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Since parts on reels can't really be repaired as can some parts on rods, the best solution is to order and replace those parts that are suspect or worn. It's better to do that now, since local tackle shops usually just can't stock all the many parts of the vast numbers of reels and you will likely have to order parts from the manufacturer using the stock number in the parts list in the reel manual.

Once the parts are clean, replace them in turn and grease or oil them lightly as required. Sparse greasing is better than heavy greasing, since heavy greasing will often cause the grease to migrate from the gears to other parts where it can cause drag slippage or damage to other internal mechanisms.

Re-assemble the reel, clean the external surfaces of any grease or oil, add new line and you will be ready for next season.

* * *

Photo One: Proper tools are necessary for reel disassembly. These Daiwa Sealine reels require Phillips screwdrivers to remove the side plates. The thumb screws, shown on the handle side, are for partial disassembly.

Photo Two: Reels that are in good shape, such as this casting reel, do not have to be cleaned completely, but should have new grease added to the gears as shown.

Photo Three: Complete disassembly requires removal of the gears and drag washers as shown on these reels. It is important to keep parts in order when doing this for easy reassembly.

Photo Four: Small parts and crevices can be cleaned on reels in a variety of ways. The rim control slot on this fly reel is being cleaned by running a cleaning rag around the slot with a pair of pliers to clean out the groove.

Photo Five: Level winds on casting reels are always requiring grease and should be checked in any winter tackle maintenance program. It is important to use heavier grease and not oil in these level wind mechanisms.

Photo Six: Old parts can be removed easily and replaced with new parts. On this reel, the old gears are shown at the bottom, new gears going in, including pinion and main gears and drag washers are shown below. Also, the gearing is being changed to a faster gear model as a result of different sizes of main and pinion gears. Such replacement parts are available from the manufacturers.

Photo Seven: Rollers on spinning reels should be carefully checked for proper easy rolling and replaced if grooved or damaged. Removal, thorough cleaning and light oiling is necessary each season.

Photo Eight: Examples of sets of gear washers from three different spinning reel spools. If taking such assemblies apart, they must be reassembled in the same order to work properly.

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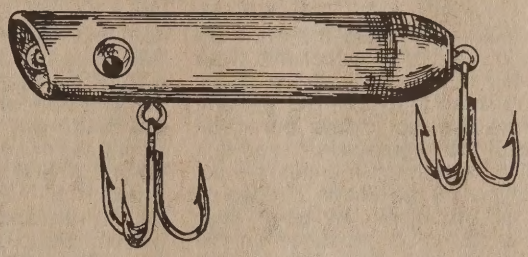

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CUSTOM BUTT WRAPS:

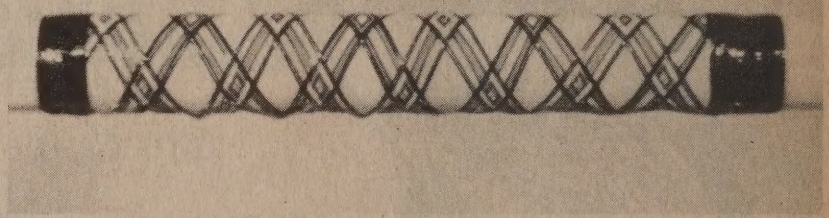
DOUBLES

by Ted Bingham

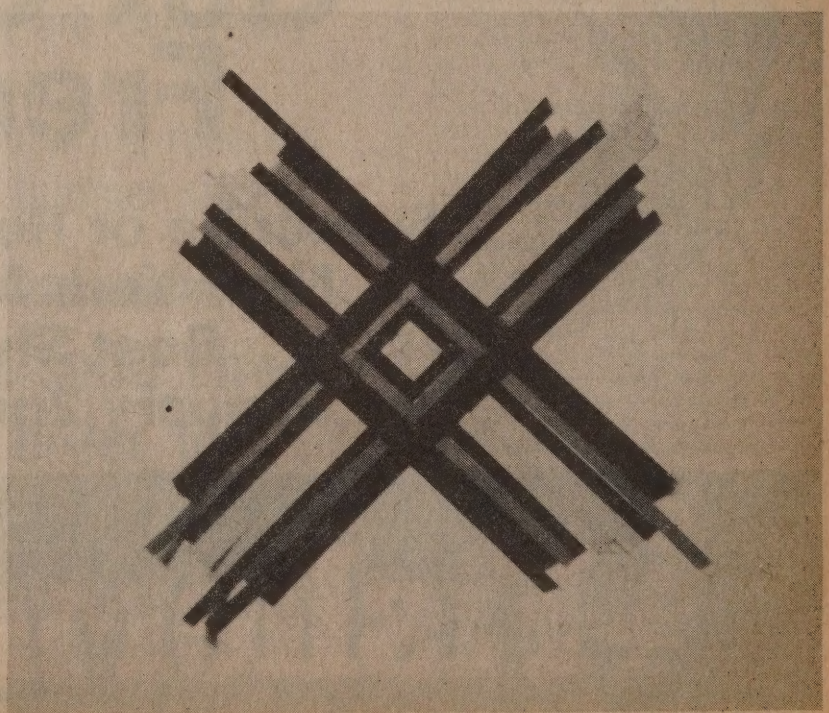
Last week we covered the standard diamond wrap. Notice that this wrap only utilized two sides of the blank, top and bottom, to form its pattern. Therefore, the design was formed on the 0 and 180 degree axis. Creating a double axis diamond demands a second layout on the 90 and 270 degree areas of the blank. By using four sides, a pattern is produced on the top, bottom, and both sides of the blank. The layout varies somewhat from that of the standard diamond. In the double pattern, it is the sides (90 and 70 axis) that are placed halfway between the top and bottom marks. Using the one inch example, place the cross hairs on the top and bottom (0 and 180 axis) at one inch intervals. Both can be placed at the same time since their spacing is identical. Rotate the blank 1/4 turn and place the 1/2 inch marks for both side axis. The location for these, like that of the standard, is found with a piece of paper. This time crease the paper in quarters. The touching ends, plus the three folds, will align the lateral position of the cross hairs. The following is just the first of many times that thread sequence is mandatory. Most of the patterns discussed, in the future, will require two or more patterns to be wrapped simultaneously. Concerning the double pattern, wrap each one's center thread. After the first cross thread of each, the sequence is: first thread, first diamond, right side; first thread, second diamond, right side; second thread, first diamond, left side; and second thread, second diamond, left side.

The right side is defined as placing a thread to the right of the previously wrapped strand as viewed from the horizontally supported blank. It also would be toward the blank's tip or on top of the pattern. Continue working back and forth between the diamonds until the desired size is obtained. What this sequence does is form two diamonds, on different axis, at the same time. The top and bottom patterns will be identical. The side pattern will form where the threads from both top and side cross. Its color will be a combination of both. As with all wraps verify the alignment after the first few threads in are place and tighten periodically thereafter.

There are a number of ways that multi axis wraps can be varied. The easiest would be to change the colors of each axis. For example, wrap the pattern using blue on the 0 and 180 axis and yellow on the sides. With the sequence described, alternating blue and yellow diamonds would form on top and bottom. The 90 and 270 side diamonds will be both colors in an hourglass or bow-tie shape. The more color combinations you employ, the broader the resulting variations will be. For instance, the colors of each pattern could be reversed in mid wrap. The first diamond could use 5 blue threads surrounded by 5 yellow. Reverse the colors for the second diamond using 5 yellows and 5 blues. The 0 and 180 degree axis patterns will show a recurring series of blue/yellow and yellow/blue diamonds. The side diamonds will be blue/yellow on the inside and yellow/blue near the outer border. This is only the beginning. If the blank's diameter permits there is no reason why another axis set or two can't be added. If this is done, just remember the sequence: right thread on diamonds 1, 2, 3, etc.; left threads 1, 2, 3, etc. The final varia-



With the use of charting tape, a clear and accurate sample diamond can be produced.



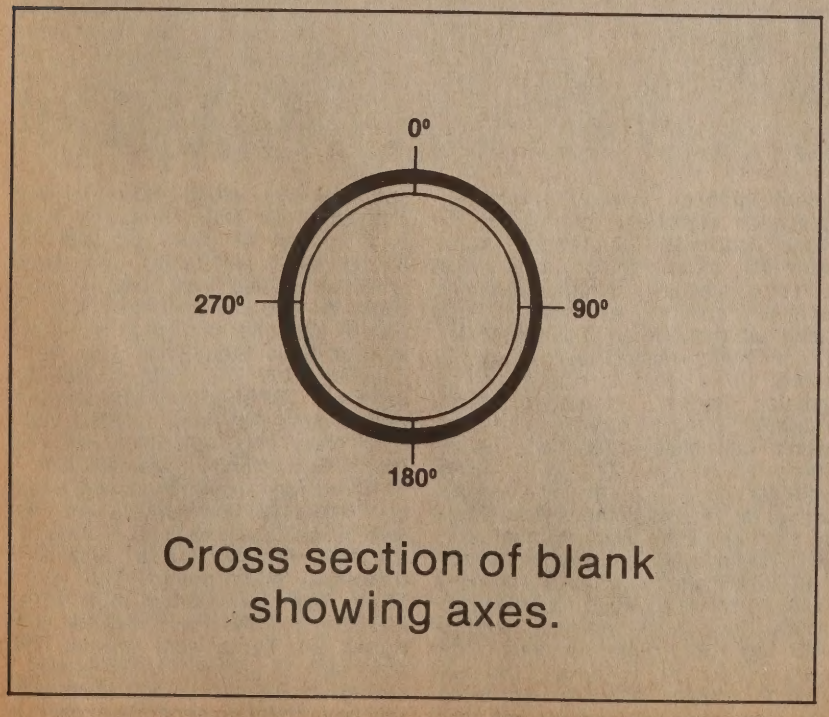
Double axis wraps do not necessarily have to be on separate axes.

tion I will give is from last week where the layout shapes can be changed. With all the combinations available from just this simple design, it's easy to understand why individual patterns should be labeled and a wrapping system used.

These are the first of many designs that involve wrapping two or more items at the same time. It is very important that you develop a systematic wrapping pattern of your own if you don't already have one. The one I use is always wrapping to the right of the center thread first, then the left. By always using this system, it becomes second nature. It also saves time. Because you're working in an orderly fashion, you're less likely to lose count and become confused. Keeping track of different diamonds in a multi pattern can always create havoc. A small piece of tape can label each pattern and a wrapping system makes quick work of the rest. It's very difficult to count closely knit threads and there's nothing more aggravating than completing a pattern only to discover you skipped a thread and have to start all over. Anything that can alleviate this problem is worth a try.

All this brings us to another point. Keep notes and even a checklist if desired. The list is another safety precaution against error and the notes can recall that "mistake" that developed into a totally new pattern. If you plan a lot of experimenting with new ideas, keeping track is mandatory. Trying to create your own invention does not require a complete wrap. There are two common methods that are fast and work quite well. They do, however, have limitations. All they show is the central design. Think of it as seeing a showroom sample of tile. Although the one tile appears perfect, placing 400 of them together on the floor could create a monster. So it is with a pattern sample: only the focal point is shown, not the leading threads. Little, if any, background will appear and the leading threads are left to the imagination. It also won't show if the combined series of patterns will appear too congested on the blank. Finally, the sample is produced on a flat surface so any difference the curve of a blank might make, will go unseen. Despite these negative aspects, it is still a worthwhile weapon for your arsenal. Since the purpose of most wraps is to form a specific central pattern, obtaining a quick preview of the focal point more than outweighs the drawbacks.

The double axis diamond: note the alternating colors of the side diamonds.



A double axis diamond utilizes four sides of a blank.

The first sample wrap involves using a piece of construction paper or cardboard. The color should be the same as the blanks. This way the color or patterns and combinations will be fairly accurate to the actual wrap. Cut a six inch square section and cover most of the center with double sided tape. Use longer than needed strands of thread and place them side by side, on the tape, in the same fashion used if actually wrapping a pattern. The tape allows you to lift and reposition the threads at will. Cover the finished sample with clear tape or color preserver and store it with the layout and notes for a permanent record.

The second method I believe, is vastly superior. It also uses the same paper but instead of thread, charting tape is used. This tape is available at art supply stores and is used by artists and printers. it has an adhesive back hat allows it to be repositioned many times. The best part is that it's produced in a variety of colors: mat, glossy and fluorescent, and in strict tolerances down to fractions of an inch. The price is about $1.75 and a roll is 650 feet long. With that length, it will last quite awhile with the short piecs we'll be using. The sizes I use the most are 1/32, /16, 1/8 and 1/4 inch. To save time I let each width represent a thread, or bands of threads. For instance, when one thread is needed, I use 1/32; if a band or two is called for, I'll use a 1/16 strip (3 = 1/8, 4 = 1/4). This comes in handy in bordering a sample wrap and also, as you'll see in future issues, when threads are multiplied progressively on each pass. Since this tape is used professionally the diameter is extremely constant. Regardless of which sample is used the directions remain the same. The one shown in the photo took less than 10 minutes for the layout, cuts and placement of strips. So it does save time and it generates a decent sample. With both methods a large piece of paper can be used and all the notes, layout and comments can be placed in a binder for future reference. I have tried using the tape on both blanks and PVC tubing.

As the series continues the reason for all these examples will become clear. Soon the patterns will change and you'll be wrapping two and three sections of one design at the same time, each in a different direction. Tape samples can save enormous amounts of time when you begin experimenting on your own with these complicated designs. For next week, the agenda will be expanding on the double patterns with trim threads, touching diamonds, and four diamonds surrounding one.

TWENTY YEARS ON THE CAPE

Part Two — *by Frank Daignault*

New regulations at Nauset forced us to break our habit of staying on the beach all summer. '70 was the first year that Orleans and Chatham instituted the 72 hours on/72 hours off regulation. Thus we needed an alternate beach and, having heard so much about the striper fishery there, P-Town was the obvious place to fill our needs. Woh boy, was this a different world! Nauset—no fires on the beach, no nudity; big surf, few boats, mostly worm fishing, no bluefish.

P-Town—Build a fire, take your clothes off and jump in the flat water between the boats—while everybody plugs for bluefish.

Here we got a chance to see the renowned surf boat in use. Typically, its user had a two-wheel drive walk-in camper, a 4wd chase vehicle for towing it, pushing it into the surf and short trips to town; and, of course, the 14 foot aluminum surf boat, outboard equipped. While this mode of operation dominated the typical P-Town fishermen, all of whom came from way inland, there was a small cult of surfcasters I identified strongly with and quickly grew fond of. Just about all the surfmen of Woonsocket, R.I.'s Thundermist Striper Club were there; there were a smattering of greater Boston surfcasters; and, roughly 50 New Yorkers, some of whom had been fishing the beach there since the 40s, with some younger guys—like myself—coming along. Surfcaster methods were totally hunt and cast. Dominating tackle was a Penn Squidder clamped to an 11 foot stick loaded with 45 lb. micron; 50 or 60 lb. mono shock leaders were spliced down to the reel while casting. The big Atom swimmer was THE plug, particularly if you had the old, pre '51 models manufactured when the tools were new. Bob Pond had shifted his production efforts then to spinning size plugs much to our chagrin. The only thing he was building that we could use was the Striper Swiper and Junior Atom, both of which valued less because they could be bought. However, with a pre-'51 swimmer you could make all kinds of deals. Stan Gibbs plugs were popular with the Gibbs Trolling Swimmer (GTS) hitting the market right around that time, maybe a year later. Very important here was the Giant Pikie Minnow, "Jointed Eel." There was some spinning tackle used by the younger New Yorkers, but this was looked upon with great disdain by the rest; mostly Cracks, Quicks—those big, gray, manual bail jobs. There was one method that truly characterized the New Yorkers: the rigged eel. These were selected for size, say 16 inches, killed kosher, strung with two 9/0 salmon hooks and pumped rhythmically in the rips. I learned quickly that this was an

excellent way to take bass, but they never taught me how as I had to learn that myself. You fish the rigged eel as though it were a lure. There was virtually no bait fishing from the beach. Also, teasers were unheard of.

Joyce and I marveled at the weird, do-your-own-thing world that we had discovered at the tip of Cape Cod. This was the day of "Beatniks" and they had just put the cuffs on some guy who had murdered some, or all, of his girl friends, burying them in the dunes. The kids couldn't figure out why the men were all holding hands and the women not wearing bathing suits. Socially, fishing and the short, close to town logistics had our entire family making quite an adjustment.

Whales frolicked in the Race blowing water high not a tenth of a mile from shore, a sight that we had never seen. Great schools of mackerel came down the beach every night at sunset causing all of the children living in nearby campers to run out with freshwater tackle to blitz their brains out. It was something to be a part of all those kids catching hard fighting mackerel, 16 inches long, on trout tackle. None of the other men did it, but I did. It wasn't beneath me! Only thing was there was always some little kid with a mess in his line that I had to gillie for and I wanted to fish. Kids are a pain.

There had been much talk about bluefish because the regulars there were hoping for them to come as they had the year before. Blues seemed the only hope for surf action because P-Town was mired in an awful striper slump. The boats came in with a 30 lber. here or there, but the surfmen were dying. Of course, they had a standard itinerary that said you fished the back beach cottages on the rise, then scooted the back track at high water to the Second Rip for the drop. All of us went through the motions each night, but there was more standing around breezing or nodding in the buggy cabs. It was such a night that I was told that they had taken blues up to 19 lbs. the year before. Now, something that you have to keep in mind here is that there weren't the choppers then that we have now—particularly from shore. Moreover, if you did catch one anywhere it was five or six pounds. Seventy was the year that I published my first story in Salt Water Sportsman called "Block Island Safari" about the monster blues there that often exceeded 10 lbs., from shore! If what they were saying was true, it would be mighty embarrassing for my article to come out praising the Block for such runts. Moreover, the World Record then was 24 change, caught in the Azores, which me to meant that if you wanted a big bluefish you had to go to the Azores. Right? I figured these guys were busting my chops because I was new.

As I recall it was late July, maybe a 1AM tide. Another boring shape-up of regulars: Conrad, Maranda, Carlezon, Allaire, maybe a dozen of the New York bunch. Geezus, I thought we would all wet our waders when the fish came because some of us hadn't been tight in weeks. They came down from the Race so fast that you could mark their progress in the rip by the fanning, setting, and cursing that each of us made as we either hooked up or missed. But it didn't matter because if your plug survived the first whack, three cranks and your tip would be in the water. There was one fish under 15 lbs., a 12 that Tom

"For my family and I this was high drama because we had been bored with six years of school bass with only an occasional striper big enough to take line off the reel."

Murphy said was the biggest he had ever taken; Al Weisburg said that he had never seen one that small. On average, they range 15 to 18. One of the things that sticks to me is the high percentage of seasoned surfmen there that night who so went to pieces that they backlashed themselves right out of the action without taking a fish. Imagine fishing a month for the blitz to come then blowing it because you forgot how to fish. For my family and I this was high drama because we had been bored with six years of school bass with only an occasional striper big enough to take line off the reel. Sure, the money had been good but we were still sport fishermen at heart. Having a new kind of fish, bluefish, brought a real spark to our lives. I hasten to add that the first blitz night was the beginning of what would come to be a season of pull-your-guts-out blitz nightly.

For we commercials the arithmetic was different but there was still a decent bottom line: $15 per box, two boxes a night four nights a week which bought gear, groceries and gas. This was a high price when inflation is taken into account. Keep in mind that 15 cents is about all that is paid today. The market wasn't flooded wtih bluefish in those days as P-Town seemed to be the only place where you could ton with any consistency from the shore. Once we knew and could plan, I parked the truck closer to the water and draped all the plugs across the front bumper of the truck. If there was any kind of a sou'west, once the tide started to run it was duck soup. The kids were getting bigger now and even the twins could open snaps leaving the plugs in the fish to make another cast. Production was good and everybody was enjoying.

One night I caught a goosefish (angler) (tails) that ate a loaded Atom 40. Lordy, are them things ever ugly! They are a mouth the size of a patio table with a tail. Another fellow caught one also but he left his to rot on the beach. Throwing them both in the fish box, reasoning that I was taking blues in anyway, I marketed them both. Was I ever surprised that my two goosefish brought the same price as a box of bluefish.

Another night, when the wind quartered out of the nor'west, live squid washed up on the beach from the Race clear around the Traps to the Second Rip. After picking a couple for bait, just in case something was chasing, I started kicking them back. But the dumb things would swim right back on the beach without anything even chasing them. I felt kind of stupid helping them as there were a million, all bent on the same suicide. Then my cash register dinged and I banged on the side of the buggy. The girls all came running out, panties and pajamas, grabbing rods and running to the water, before I instructed them on the fine art of "squid picking." Anyway, Once I had them listening they seemed interested as they heard the split: no money for the buggy. What the dock paid for the squid was theirs. It was nearly daybreak and when the first light bathed the beach you should've seen those girls picking up live squid—screaming and laughing—ink in their hair, in their faces, all over their night clothes; and did they ever stink. Price turned out to be four cents per pound and I had stopped them when they filled a 100 lb. cooler. They split $3.90 four ways and blew every cent in Provincetown's Penny Candy Store. Maybe there was a favorable lesson in capitalism for them, I don't know. But we've had a priceless joy talking about the venture for 15 years.

Now that I look back I see the mistake we made that first year letting the bluefish take up all our attention. There were striped bass to be caught from the shore in P-Town. What we had done wrong was we had listened to the regulars who should have known better. But they were hog-tied to the P-Town traditions of back beach and Second Rip. I hate to say it this way, but there were a lot of people up there that were just plain stupid. When a tin boat was launched, where do you think it went? The Race. In '70 when I asked about the Race from shore I got 'No, you can't reach them. The Race is a boat place." But we didn't find out in 1971 through any logic or good sense. See, in those days

(Continued on next page.)

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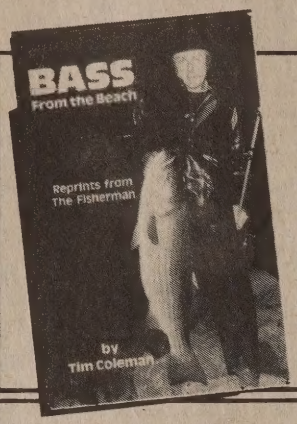

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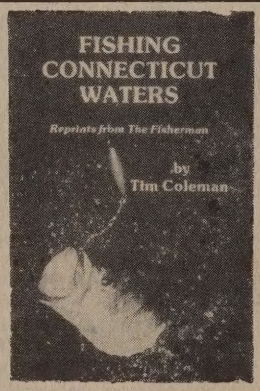

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campers were allowed to park at the Race. But that crowd, every one, were daytime boat fishermen. Moreover, a lot of days there was too much sou'-west for them to even launch. They were a laid back and quiet bunch and it was a good place to sleep during the day. Nights, we would slip down through the Traps at high water to fish the Second Rip, sack in there and then go back to the Race for the afternoon or evening sleep. However, in every two week set of tides there are some highs that occur in daylight. Then we stayed at the Race all night with me playing around in the surf. Well, anybody who knows the Race today has to know that I didn't do that very long before discovering a virtual mother lode of stripers. Those of you who have fished Race Point from shore during the last five years know that it has been a nightmare of buggies where you can't even get a place to park, let along find room for the four rods per man that people use there. But in 1971, and about seven years after that, nobody surfcast the Race. Try to envision this: eight walk-ins, with tin boats beside, sound asleep. Nobody around. Each time that the Race Light made its swing, the shadows of the walk-ins were cast on the water. The stripers laid in the shadows of the buggies and struck the bait at the time the seascape was bathed in light. If there was fog (not uncommon at Race Point) the moisture in the air retained the light longer, it apparently bouncing in the moisture-laden air, causing a lengthening in the burst of light. You could stand in one place and let your plug drift on the edge of the shadow and actually watch the bass come out of the shadow and eat your Rebel. We did this so often, so long, that the children used to claim buggy shadows and quarrel with each other if one dared to plug the other's territory, the other's buggy. Sometimes, coming back from town, you could hear them 'taking dibs' on a particular truck. "Sandra, be fair, you had that one last night."

You know, here in New England our prevailing wind is the sou'west, at least in summer. The regulars were starting to get the stink of us getting too many stripers. Some explained that we were often off to Nauset during the week—a thing we often did from '73 on. Others had seen that our truck had not left. We were always on the edge of discovery. And I think that I had some vicarious, inner desire to get caught with a load of bass at the dock by some bigmouth, even though we purposely made our drops late in the day. Anyway, one Friday night the Second Rip crowd flogged us; there must have been 30 surfcasters fishing in my yard. The kids went to bed early, eager for an excuse. The wind blew 50 miles per hour, right up their squidders. At least five asked me how the --- you fished in that kind of wind and we never saw them there again. Almost never. Thank God.

Next Week: "Hurricane."

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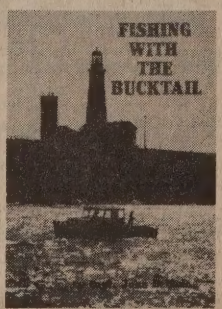

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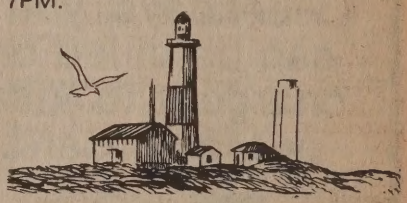
East End REPORT
with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

All remains quiet on the Island's east end. The only news reaching us this week concerned the **Viking Starship's** most recent trip to George's Bank which was back on December 26th. While we mentioned last week that we had heard from reliable sources of excellent fishing, we have since obtained more specifics on the trip. The 60 anglers who made the journey accounted for between 1800 to 2000 cod, pollock, haddock and hake, according to Capt. Paul Forsberg. Among the more impressive fish on the trip were a 60 lb. cod taken by Norbert Schnedeer, a 54 lb. cod for Tom Garotano, a 44 lb. hake for Tom Kastanek and a 44 lb. cod for Ed Beneduci. The next Georges Bank trip is slated for Friday, February 20th, at 7PM.



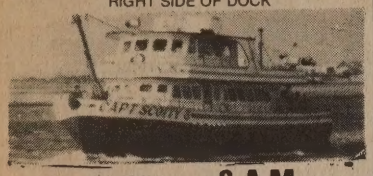
South Shore REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

Pretty quiet week along the south shore waterfront. However, since last week's storm, codfishing seemed to bounce back in good form. For those who prefer to stay closer to home, tidal creeks and rivers appear to have a good supply of trout and a fair number of white perch.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Larry Dellaire at **L&M Marineland** in East Moriches said that no one has been out to sample the Quogue Canal flounder population of late, but he suspects there are fish to be caught. Ice has not been a problem, just a lack of interest on the part of anglers. A reminder that Lary will have a few boats available through the winter for those looking to give this fishing a try.

CAPT. SCOTTY 3
RIGHT SIDE OF DOCK



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From **J&R Sports Center** in Oakdale John DiGiacomo said that the only activity locally concerns trout and white perch. Some perch being picked in the tidal reaches of the Connetquot while Bubbles Falls and Rattlesnake Creek continue to surrender good numbers of mostly small trout but some nice fish mixed in. There have been several in the 2 to 3 lb. class taken recently.

Captain Charlie Kennedy of the Captree open boat **Capt. Joseph IV** reported a pretty decent day of codfishing last Monday prior to the storm. Forty fish were taken by fares with Lessie Carr high hook with 6 cod. Five of his fish ranged from 20 to 28 pounds. Thursday, following the storm, 15 fares enjoyed a good day with 60 cod coming over the rails. Frank Delernia finished the day with seven, including a 33 lb. pool fish. He also added a 20 lb. pollock to his take. Other anglers who scored well included John Anklein with 7 cod and a 10 lb. blackfish and Phil Bloom with five cod to 25 lbs. Fishing on both days was done over wrecks. The **Joseph IV** is sailing daily for cod at 6AM.

Aboard the **Captree Queen** Captain Gordon Roman reported that codfishing bounced right back after the midweek storm. Sunday was one of his better trips of the young season. Most fares finished up the day with two to three cod apiece. Jeff Breslow and Patricia Strickbine combined to put away 10 cod. Both hailed from Bay-

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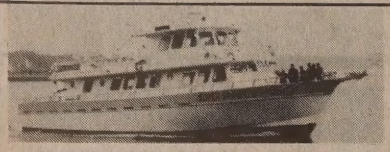

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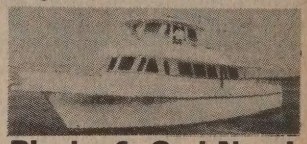

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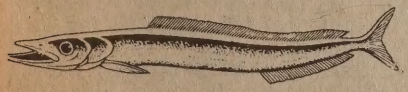
Pool winners on the Viking Starship's most recent Valley of the Giants trip display their catches. Included are Ed Beneduci with a 44 lb. cod, Tom Garatano with a 54 lb. cod, Norbert Schnedeer and Tom Kastanek with a 44 lb. hake.

side. Most of the fish fell into two weight ranges. Some running 4 to 8 pounds, while others ranged between 18 to 24 lbs. The largest of the day was a 30 pounder. Gordon reminded that the Queen will continue sailing at 7AM daily through January 11th. The boat will then be out of service for the next month or so for some annual routine maintenance.

Captain George Tweedy of the Captree open boat **Captain Scotty 3** told of a catch of 35 to 40 cod for the boat on Sunday. Most of the fish ranged between 15 and 25 lbs. with the pool winner in the low 30s. Earlier in the week, fares on Tuesday's trip managed 20 fish under very difficult conditions. George too, has been concentrating his efforts on the wrecks. The boat's cod derby is currently at the $450 mark.

Over t **Augie's Tackle Shop** in Babylon Fred Austin reported that the Babylon Tuna Club held their annual cod trip on Sunday. An estimated 50 members lined the rails of the Captree based **Speedy VIII**. Kenny Mearns and Jimmy Parker who organized the trip reported that a good time was had by all and even the fish cooperated. Approximately 50 cod were decked by club members including a 30 lb. pool winner taken by Bruce Morabito. Locally, a few restless anglers have been taking some white perch in the large pool below the falls on Argyle Lake. It sits on the north side of Montauk Highway. A couple of other anglers have reported decent perch action from the Sunken Meadow shore up on the north shore. Fred reminded that Augie's is open everyday through the winter from 8 to 4 PM and added that the shop is well stocked with reel parts and rod building components for winter doodling.

Nothing on fishing activity from Frank Pristera at **Edelman's** in Farmingdale. The Edelman's crew has been busy at their booth in the New York Boat Show. Frank said to stop on by and meet with special guests such as Rozewell Lee Jr. and Captain Bob Rocchetta.



West End REPORT
with Stu Miller

The area got its share of high winds at mid-week which kept virtually everyone home for at least two days during the week. Prior to and after the blow, codding could be classified as decent. All action is still on offshore

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wrecks. And there's just a sprinkling of dogs. Same pattern on whiting and ling out of Sheepshead Bay, while there has also been fair to good blackfishing out of that same western port.

WEST END BAYS/ JONES INLET

We learn from Captain Jim Lanzaretta of the **Super Spray II** that prior to the mid-week storm, codfishing was good with roughly 35 to 40 cod caught per trip. Wednesday was a particularly good day with catches approaching 50 cod and the pool cod weighing in at 42 lbs. 8 oz. There have also been a few pollock taken on each trip in the 10 to 15 lb. range. Things bounced back again on Sunday once conditions calmed down with 37 cod taken running 5 to 20 lbs. Pool cod all week have been in the 30 to 40 lb. range. All action has been on wrecks and Jimmy says that the doggie action has been light.

We hear from Capt. Al Lindroth of the **Capt. Al** out of Point Lookout that Wednesday's trip for 6 fares put away a decent cod catch by the end of the day, picking away at each drop. This was followed by a few days of wind and sloppy conditions. Sailing with 13 fares on Sunday, over 50 cod were decked going to 40 lbs. Last Sunday a 35 and a 40 lber. were hoisted. Al says Sundays seemed to have been the best day of the week for the last three weeks in a row. Light crowds have been having very decent catches. Just a few dogfish around said the skipper. The erratic weather pattern which has been giving us a few nice days and a few blustery days has put the fishing into this productive Sunday pattern so far.

To the west in Sheepshead Bay word from Capt. Joe Huck of the **Helen H** is of super whiting fishing through Wednesday with catches averaging 30 to 60 nice whiting a man. Fares have also had a few good shots of mackerel. There have also been plenty of ling. Thursday through Saturday no one sailed, says Joe. On Sunday things picked up again pretty nicely although the water was still churned up. Please note the boat's new sailing schedule which includes evening whiting trips from 5PM to midnight.

We hear from Charlie at **Mike's Bait and Tackle** that the whiting fishing was good through the middle of the week at Ambrose and Scotland and although the whiting were on the small side there were also good numbers of ling to be caught, all great eating. Most trips got blown out toward the tail end of the week with Sunday bouncing back somewhat. Blackfish catches at 17 Fathoms have been good to very good when the weather allowed with blacks going to 11 lbs. 3 oz. and 11 lbs. 8 oz. for the two jumbo tog of the week.

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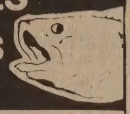

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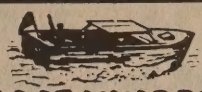

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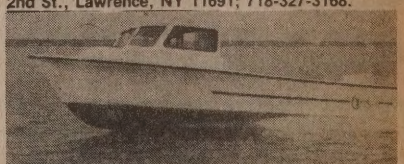

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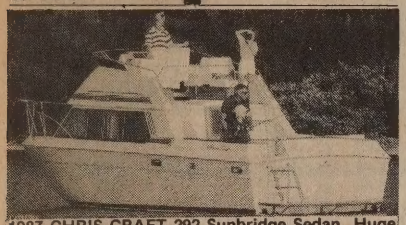

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26' 1974 Mako
26' 1980 BlueHill Marine
23' 1976 Penn Yan
23' 1974 Mako I/B
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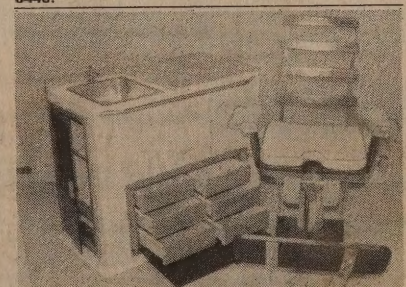

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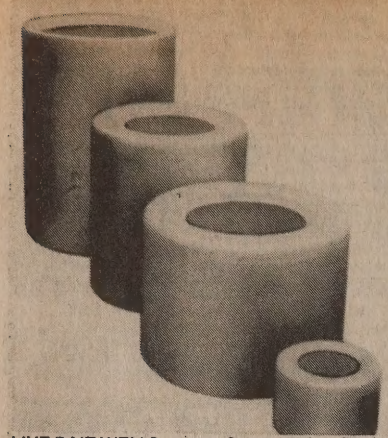

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Yes, I would like to "Send-A-Kid Fishing" this summer.
Enclosed is a donation in the amount of $_____

Name _____

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High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . —0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	2:20	2:35	3:25	3:40	3:00	3:20	4:15	4:50	6:35	7:10	5:55	6:25	2:15	2:40	1/8
FRI.	3:15	3:35	4:20	4:35	3:55	4:20	5:10	5:45	7:30	8:05	6:50	7:25	3:10	3:30	1/9
SAT.	4:10	4:35	5:15	5:30	4:50	5:20	6:00	6:35	8:25	8:55	7:45	8:15	4:05	4:25	1/10
SUN.	5:00	5:25	6:00	6:20	5:45	6:10	6:45	7:20	9:15	9:45	8:30	9:05	4:55	5:15	1/11
MON.	5:45	6:10	6:45	7:00	6:30	6:55	7:25	8:00	9:55	10:25	9:15	9:50	5:40	6:00	1/12
TUES.	6:30	6:55	7:25	7:40	7:10	7:40	8:05	8:35	10:35	11:05	10:00	10:25	6:25	6:45	1/13
WED.	7:05	7:35	8:05	8:20	7:50	8:20	8:40	9:10	11:05	11:40	10:35	11:00	7:05	7:25	1/14
THURS.	7:45	8:15	8:40	8:55	8:25	9:00	9:15	9:50	11:25	—	11:10	11:40	7:45	8:05	1/15

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehobeth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	—0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	—0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point, north side	—1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	—0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	—1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 1/8	7:28	4:46
FRI. 1/9	7:28	4:47
SAT. 1/10	7:27	4:48
SUN. 1/11	7:27	4:49
MON. 1/12	7:27	4:50
TUE. 1/13	7:26	4:52
WED. 1/14	7:26	4:54

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 1/8	12:05PM	1:35AM
FRI. 1/9	12:35PM	2:35AM
SAT. 1/10	1:05PM	3:40AM
SUN. 1/11	1:40PM	4:45AM
MON. 1/12	2:25PM	5:45AM
TUE. 1/13	3:15PM	6:35AM
WED. 1/14	4:15PM	7:25AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
1/29	1/6	1/15	1/22

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	11:55	5:45	—	6:05
Fri.	12:20	6:25	12:35	6:50
Sat.	1:05	7:10	1:20	7:35
Sun.	1:50	7:55	2:05	8:20
Mon.	2:35	8:40	2:50	9:10
Tues.	3:25	9:30	3:40	9:55
Wed.	4:10	10:15	4:25	10:40
Thurs.	4:55	11:05	5:15	11:25

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- ☐ Ling
- ☐ Whiting
- ☐ Mackerel
- ☐ Halibut
- ☐ Weakfish
- ☐ Striped Bass
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